

THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume I

DENVER, COLO., JANUARY, 1920

Number 8

Forward with Live Stock

A Statement of Federal Plans and Activities for the Welfare of the Nation's Herds and Flocks

BY DR. JOHN R. MOHLER

Chief, Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C.

IN THE INITIATIVE which live-stock men are taking to better conditions surrounding the industry there is evidence of assured success. Persons familiar with lasting progress in any field of effort recognize that what a person does for himself benefits him more than what someone else does for him.

Live-stock organizations have been especially active in getting information both from official sources and elsewhere, and placing their own interpretations on it. An active live-stock association has an independence of action which drives directly to the goal in view, and which is typically American. Such combined thought and effort by live-stock owners have introduced many economies and improvements in methods of production, and likewise have aided in the suppression of diseases and other sources of loss.

Fraternalism Instead of Paternalism

Habits of popular thought have led to comparisons and distinctions between so-called individual effort, on the one hand, and public or official service, on the other. It is a convenient distinction; yet in reality there is no dividing line between what the government is doing and what the individual is doing. The government, through Congress and on down through various departments and bureaus, is merely acting for the individual. It so happens that through organization of related lines of work the government is able to undertake research and various other activities better than individuals or their organizations. It is inevitable also that individuals cannot know personally all those who are devoting their efforts to this form of public service.

But the task in hand, being mutual, is the basis for a fraternal feeling; and I wish it were possible for that attitude to replace the unfortunate tendency to regard the government as paternal, or acting otherwise than to carry out the people's own wishes. It may interest the reader to know just how the Bureau of Animal Industry, for instance, goes about undertaking a piece of work or continuing an activity already begun. The method is typical of other government services.

Congress Approves Program of Work

We have what is called a "program of work," which is, essentially an outline of proposed activities. For each project there is a statement of the object of the work, where conducted, method of procedure, proposed expenditure, and, in the case of old work, a summary of previous results. When compiled, along with those of other bureaus, the program of work is printed, and members of both houses of Congress receive copies. At suitable times the Agricultural Committees of the House and the Senate hold hearings to discuss the various projects, and to approve, disapprove, or modify the proposed plans and estimates.

The Agricultural Committees then make their recommendations to Congress for final votes on the measure known as the Agricultural Appropriation Bill. When the bill is passed, the work approved is undertaken. While the procedure is familiar to some, I mention it as showing how the machinery operates, and as indicating the detail with which all work undertaken is considered by representatives of the people.

Perseverance—Patience—Progress

A brief list of some of the longer projects will illustrate their present status. The efforts to stamp out animal diseases call for almost endless perseverance and patience, and progress has now reached the point where we like to talk about it.

Eradication of scabies in sheep—a disease most common in the West—was undertaken in 1903, and the probable date of completion is 1922. Thus we are approaching the end of a nineteen-year campaign.

Eradication of mange (scabies) in cattle and horses was begun in 1905. This also is principally a western problem. The expected date for finishing the work is 1922, making this a seventeen-year project.

Eradication of cattle ticks really began about 1890, when, through bureau efforts, the mystery surrounding the spread of Texas or tick fever was solved. Field activities against the cattle tick were begun in 1906, and the United States is scheduled to become practically tick-free in 1924. Thus in tick eradication we have a project lasting a third of a century.

The Quarantine or Watchdog Service

The inspection and quarantine of imported animals was begun in 1884 with the creation of the bureau, and in 1890 supervision was extended to include hides, skins, and other animal by-products; also hay, fodder, etc. The purpose of the inspection is to exclude animal disease. This service has been costing lately about \$100,000 a year, and is a continuous project. Without this inspection any one or all of a dozen foreign scourges affecting live stock would be likely to run riot among our stock at any time.

It is apparent, of course, that such activities do not depend for their continuance on any single administrative official or definite corps of workers. There are frequent changes in method and a gradual turn-over in personnel. But the work, if important, goes on to completion. The eradication of bovine tuberculosis probably will be an event that none of us will live to see; but others will carry it forward to completion, if live-stock owners continue to co-operate as they have done hitherto.

In addition to projects of the kind mentioned, there are several hundred others relating to feeding, breeding, and care of live stock, research of various kinds, meat inspection, and special investigations. Some are conducted entirely by the government, others are co-operative. Meat inspection—one of the most extensive lines of work—includes nineteen projects. Ante-mortem inspection is one of these; post-mortem is another; inspection of meats for the navy is still another; and the entire list includes such further items as examination of import meats, studies of canned meats, control of insects in packing-houses, and preparation of branding-inks.

Animal Husbandry Work Includes Twenty-five Subdivisions

Animal-husbandry work last year included twenty-five distinct projects, some of which were research, some field investigations, and most of the remainder extension work. With this subdivision of activities there is a corresponding subdivision of funds—which perhaps explains why progress is not so rapid as those interested in certain branches of industry would like to see. In general, the funds are spent where they promise to give best results, with due regard to a well-rounded program and to benefits that will be lasting rather than temporary.

As would be expected, some efforts fail to yield the results hoped for because the problems are baffling. Yet, with the accumulation of experimental data, we believe the efforts and the funds are well directed. We regard no problem yet undertaken as too difficult to solve.

On the other hand, certain lines of work yield excellent results and return more in the first year than the appropriation expended. This was true of the experimental work with sheep at the government farm at Dubois, Idaho. Owing principally to the high price of wool, the experimental work more than paid for itself financially, besides yielding valuable data.

The rather detailed distribution of effort is illustrated by allotments in certain lines of animal-husbandry work last year:

Pigeon and squab investigations were allotted \$340; for farm horse and mule investigations the allotment was \$3,400; for studies of wool and other animal fibers the amount available was \$4,400; while for animal genetics, which underlies all animal-breeding practice, there was allotted \$5,660.

There are other projects where larger allotments are made, but live-stock men who turn over sums of the size stated on single farms several times a year will, for the most part, admit that the expenditures are moderate.

As a broad general policy, the Bureau of Animal Industry conducts work having a national, or at least a regional, application. The trend of effort has been changing somewhat to place greater and greater emphasis on the newer lines of work, but without decreasing the federal disease-eradication activities for which the bureau originally was established. Of recent years the three largest divisions of the bureau have been the Meat Inspection, Animal Husbandry, and Dairy Divisions.

Constructive Side of Meat-Inspection Work

Contrary to the common belief that meat inspection is conducted principally for consumers, it has a side which is of direct help to live-stock producers. In the first place, the bulk of our foreign trade in meats depends on the federal meat-inspection service. Most foreign governments will not accept meat that has not

five

twenty-
research,
under ex-
es there
ch per-
those in-
like to
promise
rounded
er than

ield the
ng. Yet,
we be-
We re-
to solve.
ield ex-
ar than
the ex-
nt farm
gh price
d for it-

is illus-
sbandry

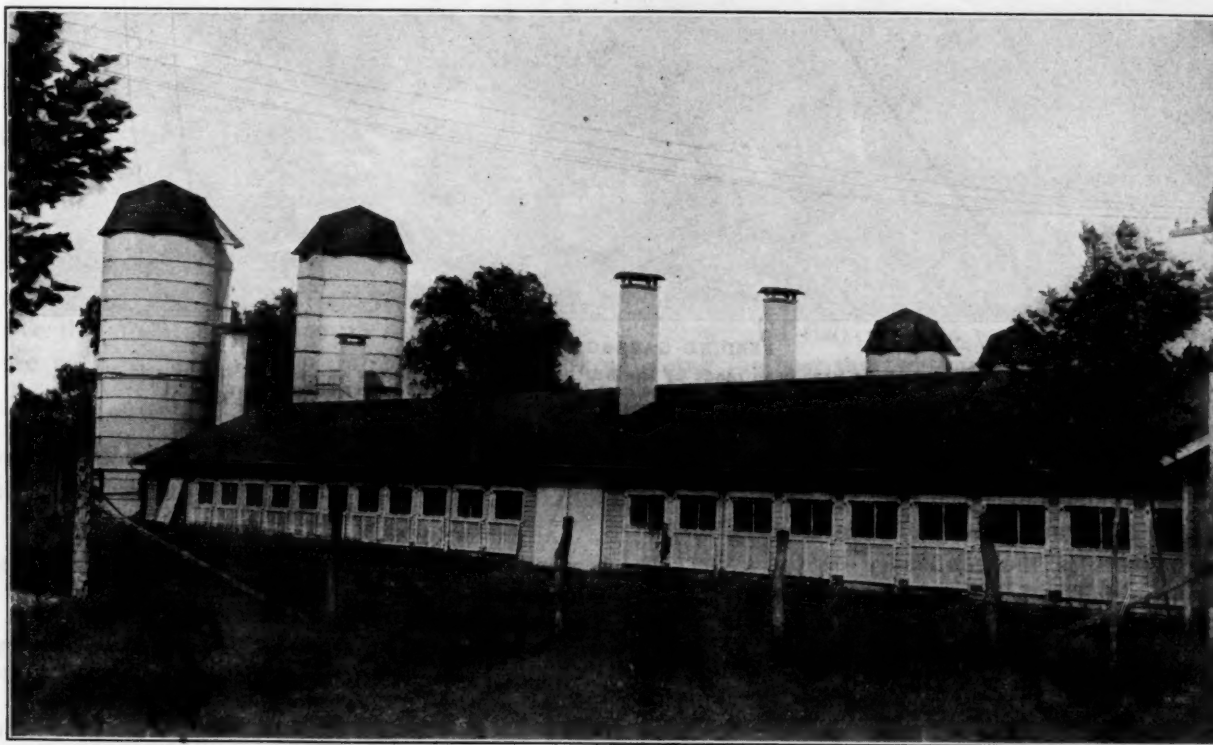
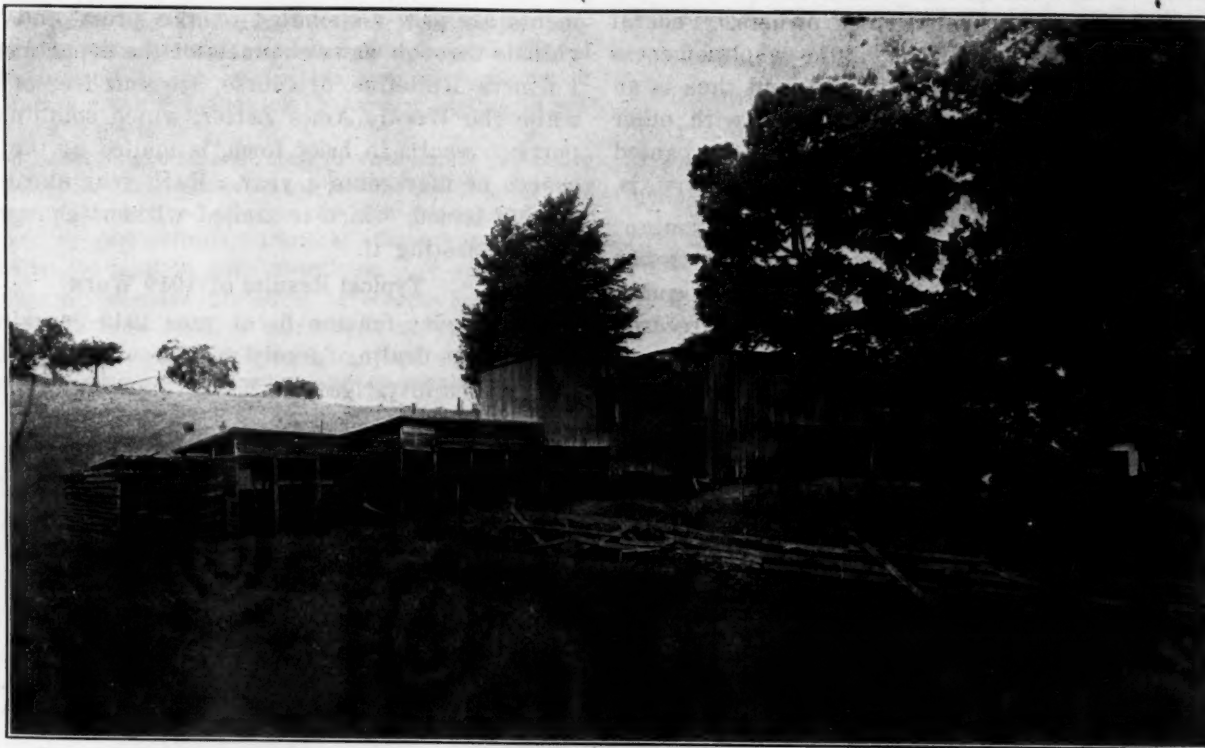
ed \$340;
llotment
al fibers
animal
practice,

lotments
as of the
will, for
res are

Animal
at least
has been
water em-
hout de-
ities for
Of recent
eau have
dry, and

rk

inspection
s a side
In the
neats de-
e. Most
has not



A STRIKING COMPARISON IN FARM BUILDINGS

As live stock becomes more and more a business requiring better animals properly kept, the sanitary aspects of the problem assume greater proportion. Suitable farm buildings and surroundings help to cut down losses from disease

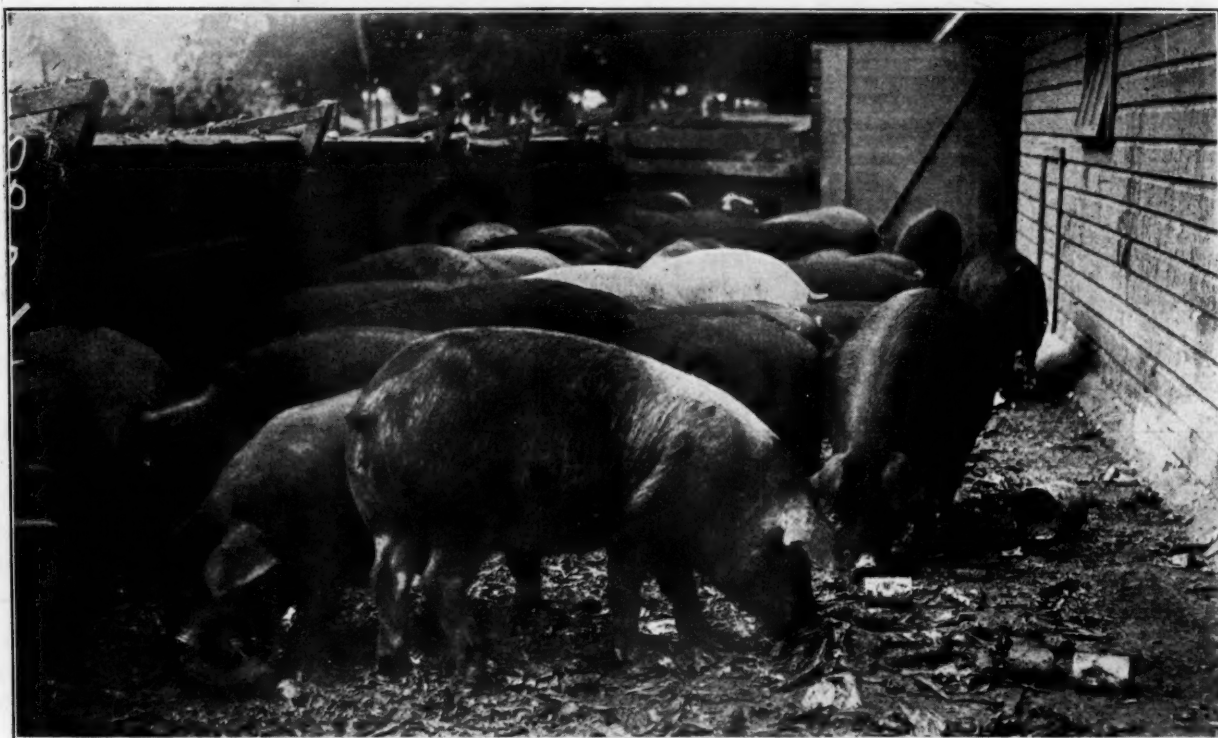
been federally inspected. The enormous quantity of meat products exported in 1919 was a considerable factor in returns received by live-stock owners. Federal meat inspection gives confidence in the wholesomeness of our products to foreign governments, and thus is an important factor in the extent of trade with other countries. Inspection of import meats, accompanied by rejection of meat products not entitled to entry, is, of course, a factor in our domestic market.

Through the federal meat-inspection service it has been possible to obtain very detailed records of condition of animals at time of slaughter. These records show clearly whether certain animal diseases are on the increase or decrease, and, through a system known

relating information until published in annual reports, results of completed work or of noteworthy developments are now distributed to the press and to individuals through news channels of the department. The Farmers' Bulletins, of course, are sent free of all cost, while the *Weekly News Letter*, which contains all important results in brief form, is mailed at the nominal charge of fifty cents a year. Each year an annual report is issued, which is mailed without charge to persons requesting it.

Typical Results of 1919 Work

The report for the fiscal year 1919 contains sixty-three pages, dealing largely with results of experiments and various investigations. The following are typical—



FEEDING GARBAGE TO HOGS.

Studies in feeding garbage to hogs have been made by the Bureau of Animal Industry as a part of its investigations in economical pork production. These garbage-fed animals are under observation by a bureau employee

as field inspection, centers of infection have in numerous cases been found and wiped out.

Of course, the main benefit of federal meat inspection to producers is the confidence of the American public in inspected meats; and it is noteworthy that the average per-capita consumption of meats has increased as the meat-inspection service has been extended.

Large Reservoir of Information

Of particular interest to live-stock owners, however, is the information resulting from the various lines of work. With the development of the department's information service in the last few years, the results of experiments and research have become available much more promptly than heretofore. Instead of accumu-

lating information until published in annual reports, results of completed work or of noteworthy developments are now distributed to the press and to individuals through news channels of the department.

At Canton, Miss., an experiment was conducted in wintering beef breeding-cows. Twenty grade cows were given a ration of oat straw and cottonseed cake, while twenty others were grazed on velvet-bean pasture, with the addition of cottonseed cake after February 16. As less labor was necessary to care for the winter-grazed cattle, this method of wintering is considered economical and satisfactory.

A hog-wallow experiment, conducted at the bureau farm at Beltsville, Md., gave interesting results. In a period of sixty-seven days pigs having access to the hog wallow gained an average of eighteen pounds more than the others.

In two experiments to determine the effect of lice on the fattening of pigs it was found that 0.31 and 0.53 pound more of grain was required to produce each pound of gain in weight in the lice-infested pigs than in those free from lice.

By improving a thirty-acre sheep pasture through the use of manures, lime phosphates, and leguminous crops, that area, which in 1916 failed to feed satisfactorily forty-four ewes and thirty-three lambs, now gives ample summer feed for one hundred ewes with their lambs. The results show the possibility of profitable sheep-raising on eastern lands under a system of rotating forage crops and allowing changes of pasture to prevent parasitic troubles.

A test in feeding cottonseed meal to work-horses and mules at the Beltsville farm showed that one pound per day per one thousand pounds live weight is the most satisfactory quantity to feed to work-animals. Harmful effects were apparent from feeding the meal in large quantities.

Results to determine the effect of regular and irregular milking on the milk yield of dairy cows showed that, with cows yielding an average of twenty to twenty-five pounds of milk daily, there was no difference between regular and irregular milking, so far as production was concerned. The feeding hours were regular throughout.

Experiments in watering cows point to the tentative conclusion that the difference between watering at will and twice a day is not pronounced. The advantage of water continuously apparently lies chiefly in the saving of labor, rather than in greater production of milk.

From the foregoing very brief summaries the reader will observe the variety of work. In some cases the experiments are entirely new; in others they furnish definite information bearing on practices of disputed merit. It is not advisable to attempt here a discussion of the larger experimental projects, the results of which run into considerable detail.

With the gradual accumulation of results there necessarily develop at Washington great reservoirs of information. Efforts are made through carefully kept lists to distribute most of the useful information promptly; but obviously the bureau has no clairvoyant power, and it must rely on definite requests for the most effective mailing of literature. The same is true of various other activities, which include interviews, demonstrations, autopsies, addresses, and similar means of reaching the public. We recognize—and members of active live-stock associations no doubt will agree—that the persons needing the information most are

likely to be among the last to request it. For that reason a free discussion of government live-stock work is encouraged wherever farmers and stockmen meet.

Emphasis on Good Breeding and Feeding

The present development of the nation's animal industry calls for particular attention to efficient methods of production in all classes of stock. Necessarily this means principally the proper feeding of well-bred animals. It does not pay to feed expensive grains and forage to scrub live stock; for that kind is incapable of giving satisfactory returns on the investment in feed, labor, housing, and general care. The entire matter, on the other hand, of more skilful feeding of grade, cross-bred, and pure-bred stock is highly important. It is important because niggardly feeding, or offering animals unsuitable combinations of feed, is expensive and liable to give uncertain returns. Skill in breeding, combined with skill in feeding, helps to give a quicker turn-over on the investment, better quality, and more profitable returns.

These remarks necessarily point out only some of the larger aspects of live-stock problems. The main points that I hope readers of this article will bear in mind are the value of putting a substantial foundation under the entire live-stock industry, and then building carefully and wisely. The foundation includes adequate control of live-stock diseases and other losses; also the basic principles of feeding, breeding, sanitation, and care. The superstructure may vary according to individual taste and preference. Experienced live-stock men know most of the things referred to; but the welfare of the industry, as a whole, depends on millions of well-informed live-stock men, rather than on a few hundred persons who are especially skilled in the subject. The immediate task on hand in carrying live-stock betterment progressively forward is to convince the small breeder that raising live stock is a good business to follow, and that what is worth doing at all is worth doing the best that we know how.

1919 the Doddies' Greatest Year

BY CHARLES GRAY

Secretary, American Aberdeen-Angus Association

THE PAST YEAR was easily the greatest in the history of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. Not only in the Corn Belt, but in the South, the West, the East, and the corners in between—Southwest, Northwest, Northeast, and Southeast—has the Doddie made material gains in both show-ring and market circles.

The climax of the year came with the International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, as usual, though during the following week the Buffalo fat-stock show

added a period to the year's victories in the show-ring. The Aberdeen-Angus car-lot that was declared grand champions of the International—the fourteenth black load in the eighteen shows held to date—was bred on the range of Colorado. The blacks made their greatest dent in the range country in 1919.

A year's summary of the car-lot victories in range territory shows that Aberdeen-Angus won grand championships at Salt Lake City and Chicago, and Jackson-

ville, Fla.—though we ordinarily do not think of Florida as range territory, because it is new to the cattle business. It is range, however. Another range victory at Portland was scored at the 1918 show—so near the end of the year that it could almost be classed with 1919 victories. Then, at the Kentucky State Fair at Louisville, Aberdeen-Angus won both feeder and fat car-lot grand championships, and the grand championship on a load of heifers. Buffalo's grand champion car-lot was also Aberdeen-Angus. So much for the 1919 car-lots.

Getting to the single steer triumphs, we have Texas, Indiana, New York, Florida, Virginia, Illinois, Oklahoma, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Washington, and Oregon state fairs; Los Angeles and San Francisco, Denver and Wichita, fat-stock shows; and, in Canada, Brandon, Toronto, and Edmonton winter and spring shows. And at the International the reserve grand champion and the two reserve champions by ages, as well as the older champion by age, were black.

Then there is the most practical class of all—the slaughter, or carcass, class, which was won, as usual, by an Aberdeen-Angus at the International. In this class the steers are judged by two different butcher judges. One places the steers alive on the hoof, and the second man, who has never seen the animals until they come before him in the packing-house coolers, judges the beef on the hooks for dressing percentage, quality, waste, etc. Aberdeen-Angus won both senior and jun-

ior classes at the recent International, giving them the grand championship for the seventeenth International in succession. Never since the first show in 1900 has any breed but the Aberdeen-Angus won in this most practical class in the world's greatest steer show. Therefore the query: "What's under the hide?"

Boys' and girls' calf and baby-beef classes have also been won, in most cases, by Aberdeen-Angus calves. At the Iowa State Fair a class of 178 was headed by a Doddie calf, and half the prizes awarded went to the "kind with something under the hide." The Minnesota Boys' and Girls' Calf Show, at St. Paul, also found a black grand champion, fed and shown by a girl. This calf sold for the Minnesota record of 76 cents a pound to Swift & Co. The Florida State Fair boys' and girls' grand champion was also an Aberdeen-Angus, as was the reserve grand champion; while at the Fort Worth, Texas, fat-stock show in March an Aberdeen-Angus calf, for the second time in succession, was champion of the boys' and girls' classes.

The Oklahoma City fat-stock show also returned an Aberdeen-Angus grand champion in the boys' and girls' classes. At the Wisconsin Junior Show, at Madison, the reserve grand champion this year was an Aberdeen-Angus. Last year the grand champion was an Aberdeen-Angus cross-bred, while the previous year it was a pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus. The Chattanooga, Tenn., district fair was another important fair that found a black champion for the boys' and girls' classes.

The Packer Injunction

WHEN A. MITCHELL PALMER became Attorney-General of the United States in March, 1919, he immediately took up the charges against the big meat-packers. Special assistants were directed to study the investigation and findings of the Federal Trade Commission, to review the evidence submitted before the Senate Committee on Agriculture, and to undertake certain other research into the conduct of the meat-packing industry. After eight months of work, one branch of the findings was placed before a Chicago grand jury, and prosecutions were alleged to be impending.

Initiative Taken by Packers

The attorneys for the packers, with a view of avoiding such prosecutions by the Attorney-General, have been endeavoring during the past few months to effect some settlement. The overtures for a compromise were made by them.

On December 18 Attorney-General Palmer announced from Washington that the five big packers—Armour & Co., Morris & Co., Swift & Co., Wilson & Co., and the Cudahy Packing Company—with their main

subsidiaries, principal stockholders, and managers (eighty-six in all being named as defendants), had acceded to the contentions of the government and consented to an injunction decree providing for the carrying-out of the agreement. Mr. Palmer issued a lengthy statement setting forth the provisions of the decree in detail, from which we quote as follows:

Provisions of the Decree

Under this decree, the defendants, and each of them, either as corporations or as individuals, are compelled, in brief:

1. To sell, under supervision of the United States District Court, preferably to the live-stock producers and the public, all their holdings in public stock-yards.
2. To sell, under the same supervision and in like manner, all their interests in stock-yard, railroads and terminals.
3. To sell, under the same supervision and in like manner, all their interests in market newspapers.
4. To dispose of all their interests in public cold-storage warehouses, except as necessary for their own meat products.
5. To forever dissociate themselves from the retail meat business.
6. To forever dissociate themselves from all "unrelated lines," including wholesale groceries; fresh, canned, dried, or salt fish; fresh, dried, or canned vegetables; fresh, crushed, dried, evaporated, or canned fruits; confectioneries, sirups,

soda-water fountain supplies, etc.; molasses, honey, jams, jellies, and preserves; spices, sauces, relishes, etc.; coffee, tea, chocolate, cocoa; nuts; flour, sugar, rice, and cereals; bread, wafers, crackers, biscuit, spaghetti, vermicelli, macaroni; cigars; china; furniture; etc.

7. To forever abandon the use of their branch houses, route cars, and auto trucks, comprising their distribution system, for any other than their own meat and dairy products.

8. To submit perpetually to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court under an injunction forbidding all the defendants from directly or indirectly maintaining any combination or conspiracy with each other, or any other person or persons, or monopolizing or attempting to monopolize any food product in the United States, or indulging in any unfair and unlawful practices.

The decree further provides that jurisdiction is perpetually retained by the court for the purpose of taking such other action, or adding at the foot of the decree such other relief, if any, as may become necessary or appropriate for the carrying-out and enforcement of the decree, or for the purpose of entertaining at any time hereafter any application which the parties may make with respect to this decree.

Results of Packer Control of Stock-Yards

From the same statement we further quote that portion relating to the control of stock-yards:

It is, therefore, evident that control of the stock-yards, and of the other facilities appertaining to the stock-yards, carries with it:

(a) A profit derived from the meat, levied upon it and collected before the animal is slaughtered; all of which profit, however, evidences itself in the ultimate cost which the consuming public must pay for the dressed beef.

(b) A potential means of favoritism in dealing with commission men; of influence over them; a power to grant monopolies, carrying with it consequent profits, to banks, cattle-loan institutions, rendering plants, and concerns supplying food for live stock, and others.

(c) A means to prevent the establishment of new packing plants, and to hamper the growth of those in existence.

(d) A means to prevent the development and limit the number of new markets, and to centralize and restrict business to the stock-yards so controlled.

(e) Peculiar and exclusive access to, information increasing the receipts and sales of live stock, its disposition, and the dissemination of information to the producer.

The parent companies and their controlling heads, appreciating the advantages which were to be gained by controlling the stock-yards and the facilities pertaining thereto, the stock-yard terminal railways, and market papers and journals, and realizing that the use of such instrumentalities might thus enable them to obtain a primary profit, not only out of the sale of live stock purchased and slaughtered by them, but also on that purchased and slaughtered by their competitors, and realizing the opportunities thereby to repress and discourage the development of independent packers and slaughter-houses, and to control the shipments of meats to the various markets, set about the acquisition of various stock-yards, and the appurtenances and privileges incidental thereto. This in many instances was done by a concert of action and pursuant to a common understanding. In most instances the acquisition of control of the aforesaid stock-yards by any one or more of the parent companies was acquiesced in by the others, and in all instances the ownership or control of stock-yards by other packers, or by anyone, in fact, other than the parent companies or one of their members or their controlling heads, was discouraged and opposed.

In pursuance of a common purpose, plan, and design, outside investors and independent packers have gradually been forced out as dominating factors both in the ownership and management of most of the important stock-yards, and have been replaced by the parent companies or their representatives.

The parent companies have availed themselves of the control so acquired by them in the stock-yards aforesaid to elect the officers and directors of said stock-yards, and to dominate and control the policies thereof. They have granted exclusive privileges—such as the right to purchase dead animals, the right to furnish supplies and facilities, and the location of cattle banks and cattle-loan companies—to concerns and corporations in which they, or some of them, or individuals who are stockholders in said parent companies, hold the controlling stock; all of which has been done with the intent and purpose, and has had the effect, of discouraging and suppressing the establishment of independent packing establishments, and dwarfing the growth of such independent packing companies which might then be in existence; to enable said parent companies, their subsidiaries or individuals who own and control the parent companies and their subsidiaries, to obtain vast profits from the management of the stock-yards and the granting of the privileges appurtenant thereto; which profits are realized, not only upon the live stock purchased by the packers, but upon that purchased by their competitors, and have thus enabled them to enjoy and realize such profits without the same appearing or being disclosed in the profits of the parent companies; and otherwise to further the attempt of said parent companies to monopolize the meat industry of the country and artificially to control the ultimate price which the consumer pays for meat and meat products.

To cure these evils, the decree about to be rendered perpetually enjoins all of the defendants, and each of them, either as corporations or as individuals, from owning any capital stock or other interest, either directly or indirectly, in any public stock-yard market, stock-yard terminal railway, or market paper or journal; and further provides that within ninety days such of the defendants as have interest in public stock-yard markets, stock-yard terminal railways, or market papers or journals shall file in the court where the decree is entered, for the court's approval, a plan for divesting themselves of such interest. It is to be hoped that these stock-yard companies will be acquired under the court's order either by the producers of live stock or by the public at large, who can impartially administer them. Under an impartial administration most of the evils complained of in the live-stock business can be cured.

The decree further provides for an injunction forbidding unfair practices or combinations in reference to the control of meat or its prices, and under this clause any of the defendants violating this injunction can be summarily punished by the court. Therefore such evils in the meat business as are not corrected by the public ownership of the stock-yards, stock-yard railroads, and stock-yard newspapers can be readily corrected under the supervision of the court.

Senators Kendrick and Kenyon on the Compromise

At the same time as the issuance of this statement by Attorney-General Palmer, Senator John B. Kendrick, president of the American National Live Stock Association and author of the Kendrick bill, made the following statement:

The announcement by Attorney-General Palmer that the packers have at last yielded to the inevitable is, of course, most gratifying. The terms of the settlement are in agreement with the fundamental principles of the bills which have

been introduced by Senator Kenyon and myself for the regulation of the meat-packing industry.

It does not mean, however, the abandonment of efforts to secure legislation. As a matter of fact, the Attorney-General's victory is merely a step, though a very long one, toward the goal we have been seeking to attain. The fruits of his victory may be made permanent only by the enactment of legislation along the lines of the measures now pending.

Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, commented on the injunction decree in the following language:

The arrangement made by Attorney-General Palmer with the packers eliminates the necessity of some provisions of the Kendrick and Kenyon bills. However, there remain certain fundamental propositions that must be met and are met by said bills.

Statement by Market Committee

The Market Committee of the American National Live Stock Association has given out the following brief notice relative to the injunction decree:

The injunction decree announced in the press this morning as about to be entered in the federal court embodies many of the principles for which the American National Live Stock Association has been striving, and for the furtherance of which the Market Committee was organized in January, 1916; viz., severance of the packers from the ownership or control of stock-yards, stock-yard railroads, terminal facilities, and stock-yard papers. The order also requires the packers to dissociate themselves from all unrelated lines, such as wholesale groceries, etc., and perpetually to submit to injunction of the court forbidding them to maintain any combination, conspiracy, or monopoly in respect of any food products.

Thus, at one blow, the packers have been compelled to surrender a position in which they have been strongly entrenched, and which they have fought so vigorously, and at such enormous outlay, to hold. The American National Live Stock Association congratulates the public and the producers of the United States on this remarkable result. But success has not yet been achieved along the whole line. It will be advisable to translate the provisions of injunction into the form of statutory legislation, and it may be assumed that such legislation will no longer be opposed by the packers, in so far as it may embody points now covered by the court's order.

The position of the American National Live Stock Association with respect to the federal regulation—by license, charter, or otherwise—of packing plants, commission firms, and stock-yards, irrespective of ownership, will remain unchanged; and the provision of the Kendrick bill requiring railroads to furnish refrigerator equipment to take care of the meat business of the country seeks to remedy one of the most acute needs of the industry, which, in the nature of things, could not be dealt with by this injunction.

Walter L. Fisher Interviewed

Hon. Walter L. Fisher, attorney for the Market Committee, in an interview expressed himself as follows:

This decree is a complete justification of the up-hill but resolute fight to clean up intolerable conditions in the marketing of live stock and other food products, which was begun by the Market Committee of the American National Live Stock Association four years ago, and has been persistently carried on by it ever since, with the aid of other producers' and consumers' organizations.

It was the American National Live Stock Association that induced President Wilson to direct the Federal Trade Commission investigation, and that secured from Congress the appro-

priation necessary for that investigation. Whatever may be said in criticism of some of its features—and I believe that some of the things that were done were wrong and weakened our fight instead of helping it—nevertheless it is beyond question that it was the fearless and effective work of the Federal Trade Commission which conclusively demonstrated that most serious abuses existed and that drastic reforms were necessary. It is because of that investigation, and the fear of its consequences, that the packers are now consenting to abandon the monopolistic methods which they have been spending millions to defend in the press and before Congress during the past two years.

The interests I represent have no desire to punish the packers for past misdeeds, even if they have been guilty of them, provided there is to be real assurance that they will not be repeated. The purpose of punishment ought to be to prevent a repetition of the offense. This decree may accomplish that result; but it cannot possibly do so unless it is supplemented by congressional action. Unless some federal agency is given authority and money to keep in constant touch with the facts, and to see to it that the principles of this decree are enforced, old abuses will go right along under new forms.

No right-minded man wants to cripple this great industry; but it has grown so great, and it has come under such concentrated control by confederated or intimately related financial interests, that some fully informed and vigilant agency of the federal government must be charged with its supervision.

With this, the decree should accomplish what Mr. Armour says was his object in consenting to it, and end the unrest and suspicion which now surround the packing business. Without this, the decree will only be one more mistake in the handling of these fundamental economic problems, upon the right solution of which depends the future welfare of the community, including the protection of the just rights of private property.

The Federal Trade Commission is right in declaring that everything depends on whether this decree is merely an armistice, or whether the fight is to end in a constructive and enduring treaty of peace. It is imperative that the food supplies of this country shall be marketed free from control, or suspicion of control, by monopolists or profiteers.

The Farmers' National Committee on Packing Plants and Allied Industries has just sent out a bulletin relative to the compromise between the Attorney-General and the packers, claiming that the settlement makes more necessary the enactment of legislation providing the necessary legal machinery for licensing packers, stock-yard companies, and live-stock commission men, so that the government can keep track of their conduct and compel obedience to the law.

Packers' Motives Set Forth

In accepting this decree, the spokesmen for the big packers insist that they have not violated any law; that they assented to it "in the spirit of true Americanism." "We gave up certain legal rights, and made certain business sacrifices, in order to meet the views of the government, and forever to set at rest the claim of monopoly of the American table by the packers. In this period of reconstruction and unrest, we desire to promote confidence, co-operation, and stable conditions."

Value of Decree Depends on Enforcement

The benefit which producers and the public will derive from the injunction decree depends in large measure on how effectively it is enforced. There may be some doubt as to whether real competition can be restored in an industry which has been so completely concentrated as the packing business. The success of the decree will depend chiefly, if not entirely, on having some fully informed and vigilant administrative agency charged with the duty of its enforcement. To apply for punitive measures long after the decree has been evaded or violated will accomplish little. What is needed is contemporaneous knowledge, with adequate publicity of all the important operations of the big packers under the decree, so that steps may be taken promptly if developments indicate that the decree is in any way inadequate or is being violated.

It will be very difficult, if not impossible, for the Department of Justice to keep in close touch with the situation, particularly with its economic phases. THE PRODUCER hopes that the decree will provide for some administrative agency, such as the Bureau of Markets, to have constant access to the books and records of the packers, and to be charged with the duty of reporting on the operation of the decree, with recommendations to the Department of Justice. There should be some provision for uniform accounting by the packers. This could, and probably will, be included in the final decree.

Obviously the Kendrick-Kenyon bills should be amended so as to eliminate those features now covered by the decree.

No Further Hearings on Meat-Packing Legislation

The Senate Committee on Agriculture has decided to close the hearings on the Kendrick-Kenyon meat-packing bills. This action was taken because of the statement of the packers that they had no further evidence to present, and the producers' side of the controversy had already been fully covered at the hearings in December, together with the findings of the Federal Trade Commission. According to Senator Gronna, chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, that committee will take up consideration of the provisions of the Kendrick-Kenyon bills after the holiday recess,

and it is expected that a measure will be reported out of the committee some time during January.

Cost of Living to Remain Unaffected

Those who profess to see in this packer compromise hope for an immediate reduction in the cost of living are doomed to disappointment. The claim of the wholesale grocers was that the packers, owing to railroad discriminations, were able to undersell them, and to give better service through the use of the packer refrigerator cars. The consent of the packers forever to dissociate themselves from unrelated lines certainly will not have any effect toward reducing the prices on such commodities—the agreement should not appreciably affect such prices.

All expectations that the compromise will result in lower prices to the consumer for meat products are shattered by the provision in which the packers agree to keep out of the retail meat business. This provision, in the judgment of THE PRODUCER, is a mistake and should be changed. We suspect that it was inserted at the request of the packers, to meet the insistent demand that they establish retail markets. Now that they have agreed to retire from unrelated lines, it seems to us that they should enter the retail trade in meat products by establishing up-to-date stores in all important consuming centers. This is a large field for the exercise of their efficiency, and should spell a narrower margin between what the producer receives and what the consumer pays. Prices for live stock on hoof and wholesale prices for meat have materially declined in the last few months, but retail prices are still maintained at practically the high level reached earlier in the year. The packers claim that they are making only a reasonable profit; retailers of meat make the same assertion; yet everyone knows that there is too wide a spread between what the producer receives and what the consumer pays. Our retail system may be fundamentally wrong. If so, now is the time to try to correct it.

The press generally hails the agreement with the packers as a forward step in the regulation of big industries. If it can be accepted as marking a general change in the attitude of great industrial aggregations, then better conditions are in store for all.

Equalizing Receipts and Stabilizing Prices

FOR YEARS it has been dinned into the ears of stockmen that, if they would so regulate their shipments of live stock to the markets as to distribute them more evenly throughout the work-days of the week, the continual daily fluctuations and violent changes in prices could be corrected.

The favorite explanation advanced by the packers for market fluctuations has been the excessive receipts

on some days of the week and the relatively meager supplies on other days; and the assertion has frequently been made by them that, if a more uniform volume of live stock were marketed on the five important market days, the wide and erratic daily price mutations would, to a large extent, be eliminated. The commission men have always insisted that the large receipts on some days and the small receipts on other days compelled

them to keep a maximum force to take care of the excessive receipts on certain days—help which was not needed on other days; and that, if the daily receipts were made more even, they could get along with less help, and consequently less expense. That also was the attitude of the stock-yard companies.

This question of regulating receipts is about as old as the markets. Time and again attempts have been made to cure the difficulty, but the efforts were never successful. Live-stock exchanges would agree to advise customers to avoid certain days, and then some enterprising firm would knock the plan in the head by doing the exact opposite.

Early in 1918 the railroads, stock-yard company, and live-stock commission merchants at Chicago, in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, through its Bureau of Markets, evolved a scheme by which the near-by territory, contributing most of the stock to the Chicago market, would be zoned, and shippers within the different zones would be permitted to ship their live stock to Chicago only on certain days of the week. In the territory outside of the zoned area there were no restrictions imposed, because of the obvious difficulty of securing satisfactory results on long-distance shipments, and for the further reason that the stock coming from beyond the zoned territory constituted only a comparatively small percentage of the whole receipts for the year. The railroads

religiously enforced this plan, and no one was able to defeat it so long as the roads maintained their regulations. A similar zone system was established in Kansas.

The zone system of regulating live-stock receipts at Chicago has now been in effect long enough to permit an intelligent survey. THE PRODUCER has obtained from the Bureau of Markets a detailed statement showing how the cattle and hog receipts at that city were distributed for a given period previous to the zone loading plan, compared with a similar period since the plan has been in effect. From the tabulated statement prepared we have selected the months April-May and October-November, 1917, to illustrate the percentages of receipts on the different days of the week previous to the zone system; and we have taken the same periods in 1919 to reflect the situation after the zone system was inaugurated. These periods are deemed to be fairly representative. The fall period, October-November, includes part of the season when range cattle are marketed, and there is no restriction as to the day on which they should arrive at market. Bearing in mind the probable effect which this range-cattle movement may have on the general result, we believe the figures presented are sufficiently accurate to show the general trend of movement during the year. The tabulation covers only cattle and hogs. The total week's receipts are considered as a unit, or 100 per cent, and each day's receipts represent a percentage of this 100 per cent:

CATTLE RECEIPTS—PERCENTAGES ON EACH DAY

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1917						
April-May.....	39.9	7.7	27.7	9.9	3.6	1.2
October-November.....	36.4	14.1	25.5	13.1	7.3	3.6
Average.....	38.15	10.9	31.6	11.5	5.45	2.4
1919						
April-May.....	33.8	26.6	13.8	19.7	4.9	1.2
October-November.....	33.0	20.9	17.2	17.2	8.1	3.6
Average.....	33.4	23.75	15.5	18.45	6.5	2.4

HOG RECEIPTS—PERCENTAGES ON EACH DAY

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1917						
April-May.....	31.9	11.0	22.0	16.2	12.2	6.7
October-November.....	24.9	15.2	20.2	16.1	14.9	8.7
Average.....	28.4	13.1	21.1	16.15	13.55	7.7
1919						
April-May.....	26.5	18.5	12.2	22.5	16.6	3.7
October-November.....	19.0	26.2	11.5	25.6	13.3	4.4
Average.....	22.75	22.35	11.85	24.05	14.95	4.05

The foregoing tables show a pronounced reduction in the large runs of live stock which formerly reached Chicago on Mondays, about one-eighth fewer cattle and one-fifth fewer hogs arriving on that day during the

periods of 1919 as compared with those of 1917. The surprising feature of the showing is the marked decrease in receipts on Wednesdays during 1919. There should be no occasion for this. No doubt it could be

remedied by some adjustments in the zone shipping territory, and these ought to be made. While the distribution of live stock at Chicago during the periods shown in 1919 was not ideal, the general trend has been toward more uniform receipts on the different days, and all interested in the reform are entitled to credit for doing something that has baffled all previous attempts.

In view of the allegations of the packers and commission men that more uniform receipts would result in less fluctuations, THE PRODUCER has secured from the Bureau of Markets a statement showing the price fluctuations on the different weekdays during the periods indicated. The statement is too long to be reproduced in full, but we summarize what it indisputably proves: During the two periods in 1919 there were fewer days of steady markets on both cattle and hogs, and more days of fluctuations, than during the similar periods in 1917; and the fluctuations were wider and more erratic. There were more days during the 1919 periods when the fluctuations exceeded 25 cents per hundred pounds, either up or down, than occurred in 1917. Everyone who has gone to market, or kept track of market prices, during 1919, knows that the outstanding feature of the trade was wilder fluctuations than usual. The total range of prices during the 1919 periods was not appreciably wider than in 1917, and the general price level was not sufficiently different to serve as an explanation for the greater fluctuations in 1919.

Thus another market reform has proved to be illusory, as far as stabilizing prices goes. The pertinent question arises whether the packers and commission men want to eliminate these fluctuations. Wild changes in prices at the markets seem to be what the packer desires and to fit into his scheme of buying. At all events, it has been amply demonstrated that, so far as he is concerned, equalization of receipts no longer means stabilization of prices at markets.

PACKER PSYCHOLOGY ALL WRONG

THAT THE AMERICAN PUBLIC "does not believe all it reads," but "insists on being shown," is admitted by Swift & Co., who, in their present publicity campaign, accordingly are supplying the skeptical public with facts and figures possessing the necessary degree of incontrovertibility. In a recent advertisement the basic claim is made that the net profit on the entire business of that firm in 1918 "amounted to only 1.76 cents per dollar of sales." In the *Rosenbaum Review* of December 6, 1919, an unconverted critic comments on this statement in the following fashion:

"It [the company] might have added that the secret of its large profits lies in the volume of produce handled. It left that to be implied. All of which reminds one of the packer representative, some years ago in Washington, testifying under oath, who said that his company lost money on every transaction included in the handling of hogs and cattle. When pressed for an answer as to how the company managed to make any money, he replied in words to this effect: 'It's the large volume

"Now, as a matter of fact, we are willing to inform the firm, without charge, that the psychology of the advertising is all wrong. The Federal Trade Commission has done nothing which requires this sort of propaganda, though the officials of the firm have thought so. The American people do not believe that advertisement—though personally I have no doubt that it is the truth. The Kendrick-Kenyon bills were introduced in Congress because the public, especially those who are engaged in producing live stock, do not believe the packers when they continually emphasize the small amount of money they make on each dollar's worth of goods handled. The real purpose back of those bills was to enable Congress to find out whether the packers are telling the truth. It is quite generally believed that they have two sets of books—one for government inspection and the other for private account. The packers may spend millions to convince the public that they are honest and upright, but the public will not believe it. It is money thrown away.

"There is just one thing which can be advantageously advertised, and that is 'service.' For instance, you can go to the Union Stock Yards today, and you can buy the best cuts of meat at much lower prices than you can purchase the same kind of meat in an up-town shop. Why don't the packers tell the public about this in their advertisements? . . . Why don't [they] establish 'Service Stations' in all of the large cities throughout the country, and sell low-priced meat—the '1.76 per dollar' meat—to consumers? The real reason they don't do it is because they do not want to give the retailers of meat an opportunity to rise up and say the 'meat trust' is 'throttling us.' But, believe me, the public will welcome a campaign of 'throttling' which will reduce the high price of meat. It would be infinitely better to engage in a fight with the retailers by showing us that we can have our meat cheaper if the packers handle it, rather than to convey to us by implication in high-priced advertising the fact that they, the packers, are innocent as shorn lambs, while all the time we are paying extortionate prices for meat. If the packers will lower materially the cost of meat to consumers, the public will lose interest in a statement of their profits, if it ever had any. . . .

"Apparently you, Mr. Packer, don't understand the first principles of mob psychology. We are telling you your campaign is all wrong. We, the public, know enough to know that a thing can get just so big, and then bigness becomes a bugbear. We know that your business can keep on growing until it gets so big you begin to get diminishing returns. We don't believe you have reached that point. But we do know that outrageously high prices are charged for your product. Work out relief along the lines which touch the consumer's stomach, and you will never know there is such a legislative abortion as the Federal Trade Commission. . . ."

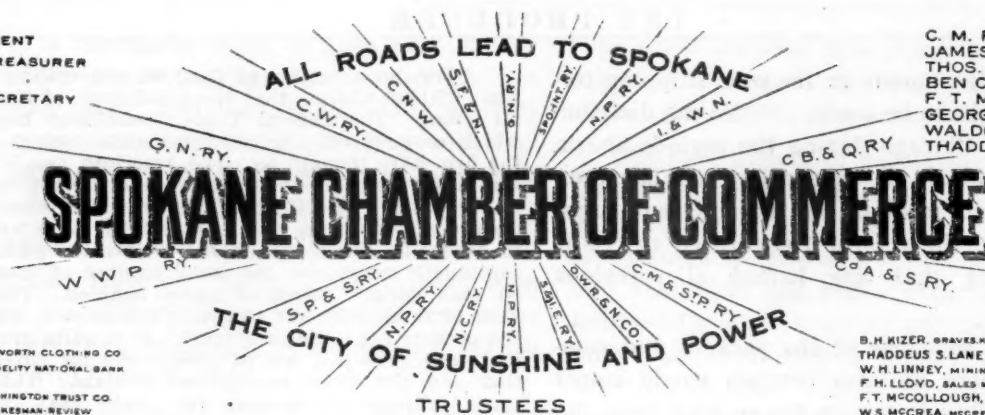
REGULATING LIVE-STOCK MARKETS

INTELLIGENT DISCUSSION of the meat-packing legislation now pending in Congress may be aided by considering that Canada has on her statute-books a law embodying many of the provisions of the Kenyon-Kendrick bills, we are reminded by *Wallaces' Farmer*, which goes on to say:

"Under this law stock-yards are under government supervision, through the immediate direction of the Dominion Supervisor of Markets. The rules provide that accommodation provided for stock must be adequate and satisfactory; that the scales be accurate; that feed shall be supplied at a fair price; that the conditions under which live-stock exchanges operate, as set forth in their by-laws, shall be approved by the Minister of Agriculture. They provide that every commission merchant must become a member of the exchange or hold a special license from the Minister of Agriculture; that he must furnish satisfactory security, etc. Charges at the stock-yards must be approved by the Minister of Agriculture, and the books of stock-yard companies must be open for inspection. The Division of Markets is also setting up a complete system for reporting market conditions and prices, and has arranged for its distribution both direct and through the farm and general press. It also supplies a daily telegraph news service to the daily press, and is quoting prices on standard grades of live stock in such a way that the prices quoted are understandable."

Apparently a good many people who look with horror upon government by injunction do not see anything wrong with government by intimidation.—*Columbus Dispatch*.

T. H. HEBERT, PRESIDENT
THOS. H. BREWER, TREASURER
JAMES A. FORD,
MANAGING SECRETARY



VICE PRESIDENTS

C. M. FASSETT, CIVIC
JAMES L. PAINE, COMMERCIAL
THOS. S. GRIFFITH, IMMIGRATION
BEN C. HOLT, INDUSTRIAL
F. T. MCCOLLOUGH, MINING
GEORGE W. DODDS, RURAL AFFAIRS
WALDO G. PAINE, PUBLICITY
THADDEUS S. LANE, MEMBERSHIP

DR. K. L. ANTHONY
R. E. BIGELOW, SECY. TREAS. WENTWORTH CLOTHING CO.
THOS. H. BREWER, PRESIDENT, FIDELITY NATIONAL BANK
L. H. BROWN, ATTORNEY
W. B. CONNELLY, PRESIDENT, WASHINGTON TRUST CO.
W. H. COWLES, PUBLISHER, THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW
L. M. DAVENPORT, PRESIDENT, DAVENPORT HOTEL CO.
GEORGE W. DODDS, MANAGING EDITOR, THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW
F. E. ELMENDORF, PRESIDENT, ELMENDORF & POPE, INC.
C. M. FASSETT, MAYOR
E. E. FLOOD, VICE PRESIDENT, EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK
W. S. GILBERT, HAMBLEN & GILBERT, ATTORNEYS
THOS. S. GRIFFITH, PRESIDENT, SPOKANE INTERSTATE PAIR
M. E. HAY, PRESIDENT, LINCOLN TRUST CO.
GEO. P. HARDGROVE, FERRIS & HARDGROVE

CHARLES HEBBERT, SECY. TREAS. HEB. TULL & DIBBS, INC.
T. H. HEBERT, VICE PRES. SECY. KEMP & HEBERT
S. E. HEGE, PRESIDENT, HEGE & WATKINS CO.
JAKE HILL, PRESIDENT, HILL BROS. SHOE CO.
BEN C. HOLT, PRESIDENT, NORTHWEST HARVESTER CO.
D. L. HUNTINGTON, PRESIDENT, WASHINGTON WATER POWER CO.
CHARLES HUSSEY, FINCH INVESTMENT CO.
R. INSINGER, MGR. NORTHWESTERN PACIFIC HYPOTHEC BANK

B. H. KIZER, GRAVES, KIZER & GRAVES, LAWYERS
THADDEUS S. LANE, PRESIDENT, WESTERN EMPIRE INVESTMENT CO.
W. H. LINNEY, MINING ENGINEER
F. H. LLOYD, SALES MGR. HAYWARD LARKIN CO.
F. T. MCCOLLOUGH, SECY. TREAS. CRYSTAL LAUNDRY CO.
W. S. MCCREA, MCCREA & HENRY WEATHER
ALLEN WEISSENEIMER
R. B. PATTERSON, PRESIDENT, SPOKANE DRY GOODS CO.
JAMES L. PAINE, SECY. MGR. THE CRESCENT
WALDO G. PAINE, VICE PRES. AND TRAFFIC MGR. S. I. E. R. CO.
GEORGE A. PHILLIPS, PALACE DEPARTMENT STORE
JAS. S. RAMAGE, PRESIDENT, CONTINENTAL COAL CO.
F. A. ROSS, MINING ENGINEER
J. D. SHERWOOD, REAL ESTATE & INSURANCE
FRANK SWEENEY, ECONOMY STORES CO.
FRANK J. WALKER, INVESTMENTS

SPOKANE

December 1, 1919.

Officers and Members,
American National Live Stock Association.

Gentlemen:

The decision by your organization to hold its 1920 convention at Spokane on January 27-28-29 is a source of deepest gratification to us.

The entire Pacific Northwest is highly honored by the opportunity of entertaining your organization, which is, of course, the greatest institution of its kind in the world.

We believe the growing live stock industry of the Pacific Northwest will be benefited and quickened as the result of your meeting in Spokane. We believe that your members who attend will benefit substantially as the result of your visit to our wonderful country, which has already made very substantial progress in the direction of building up an important live stock industry and which holds vast potentialities for the future along this line.

Our city can take care of your members during convention week, and will exert every effort to make our guests thoroughly at home.

We are delighted to learn that many members will be accompanied by their ladies, and that we are to have an opportunity of extending hospitality to the latter. Rest assured we will endeavor to make the visit of your ladies to Spokane pleasant. A special program for their entertainment is already worked out.

Is there any service we can perform in advance for your members? Can we arrange your hotel accommodation? Write the Chamber of Commerce and this service will be gladly extended.

We sincerely trust every member of the Association will attend the convention and that the gathering will be at least as successful as many notable conventions which have preceded it.

Yours cordially,

T. H. Hebert

President,
SPOKANE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Grant Copeland President,
SPOKANE STOCKMAN'S CLUB.

THE PRODUCER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE

LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES

BY THE

AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHING COMPANY

515 COOPER BUILDING, DENVER, COLORADO

Officers and Directors

JOHN B. KENDRICK, President

HENRY A. JASTRO, Vice-President

IKE T. PRYOR

DWIGHT B. HEARD

T. W. TOMLINSON, Managing Editor

LOUIS WARMING, Associate Editor

Subscription: One Dollar a Year :: Advertising Rates on Request

Volume I

JANUARY, 1920

Number 8

The Convention

The Twenty-third Annual Convention of the American National Live Stock Association will be held in Spokane, Wash., on January 27, 28, and 29, 1920; sessions commencing at 10 o'clock A. M. on Tuesday, January 27.

Every stockman is invited to attend this convention.

* * *

The Executive Committee of the American National Live Stock Association will meet in the Committee Room of the Davenport Hotel on January 26—the day before the opening of the convention—at 10 o'clock A. M. Standing Committees of the Association will also meet on January 26. Stockmen having any subjects to submit to any of these committees are requested to do so at that time.

* * *

Following is the program of the Spokane convention:

FIRST DAY

Tuesday, January 27, 1920, 10 A. M.

Music.

Convention Called to Order.

Invocation—Rev. George W. Knepper.

Addresses of Welcome—Hon. Charles A. Fleming, Mayor of Spokane, and John H. Roberts, Secretary Spokane Union Stock Yards Company.

Response—Dr. John A. Donovan, Butte, Mont.

Annual Address of President—Hon. John B. Kendrick.
"Live-Stock Conditions in Inland Empire"—Hon. E. T. Coman, President Exchange National Bank of Spokane, Wash.

Address—Dr. Holland, President Washington State College, Pullman, Wash.

Afternoon Session, 2 P. M.

"Meat-Packing Legislation"—Hon. Murdo Mackenzie, Chicago, Ill.

Report of Market Committee.

Discussion.

Address—Hon. Joseph M. Carey, Cheyenne, Wyo.

"Loco Weed and Its Eradication"—L. V. Medley, Magdalena, N. M.

"Beef—Where Does It Come From and Who Eats It?"
—Hon. Frank D. Tomson, Lincoln, Neb.

SECOND DAY

Wednesday, January 28, 10 A. M.

Address—W. C. Barnes, Forest Service, Washington, D. C.

Address—Hon. E. H. Lindley, President University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho.

"The Railroads"—Sam H. Cowan, Fort Worth, Tex. Attorney for the Association.

"Disposition of Remaining Public Land"—C. P. Mullen, of Arizona, President United Stockmen's Association for Federal Control of Public Grazing Lands.

Discussion.

Afternoon Session, 2 P. M.

Talks by Government Officials.

Reports of Standing Committees.

Consideration of Resolutions.

Discussion of Any Question Affecting the Live-Stock Industry.

THIRD DAY

Thursday, January 29, 10 A. M.

Election of Officers.

Selection of Next Place of Meeting.

Any Unfinished Business.

Appointment of Committees.

Adjournment.

Afternoon

Meetings of Executive Committee and Standing Committees.

* * *

Hotel accommodations at Spokane can be secured by communicating with John H. Roberts, Secretary of the Spokane Union Stock Yards Company, Spokane, Wash. Headquarters of the Association during the convention will be maintained at the Davenport Hotel, where delegates and members are requested to register.

Arrangements have been made for one or two special Pullman cars to leave Denver on January

23 at 7:35 P. M. via the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad to Billings, and via the Northern Pacific Railroad from Billings to Spokane, reaching the latter point on Sunday night, January 25, at 5:15 o'clock. Those desiring accommodations on these cars should promptly communicate with the Secretary of the Association, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colo. Tickets on the going trip should be purchased via route indicated. Return journey can be made on other routes on regular trains, as may be desired. The Union Pacific will also probably arrange to run a special Pullman car from Denver to Spokane, via Butte, Mont.

1919

VIEWED IN RETROSPECT, 1919 was a year of promises unfulfilled. Few of the high hopes with which humanity greeted its advent ripened into fruition. Firmly, we believed, because cemented with blood, was laid the foundation for a new order, based on the brotherhood of man. Instead, as the curtain falls and rises, we see chaos reigning on the world-stage. Festering sores are everywhere. The surge of altruism in which for a brief period we gloried is fast ebbing out, leaving selfishness and distrust—all the old rivalries and jealousies and antagonisms—in its shallow wake.

We doubt if a more inspiring spectacle has ever been witnessed than the awakening, tardy but profound, of the American people during the last two years of the Great War. The sight of a mighty nation—heterogeneous in its composition and avowedly materialistic in its reaction to life—being carried away on a tidal wave of irresistible devotion to an ideal was impressive beyond words. To the world at large it was a revelation. To our people at home it was triumphant vindication: at bottom we had always been thus! In one leap we rose to levels of unity and sacrificial fervor never before reached in our national history.

Were there any who cherished the belief that we should remain there—that we should prove ourselves possessed of the capacity for sustained enthusiasm in the attenuated atmosphere of an abstract cause? If such there were, they were doomed to disappointment. After the stimulus of combat and the intoxication of victory followed the laxity of a flabby peace—a peace that was not peace, but flaunted its name and its tinsel. "Easy is the descent of the Avernus," said the ancients—oiled is the track of the backslider with the unction of complacency and the grease of gain. We saved the world from militarism, to leave it the prey of anarchy; we rescued it from the junker, to turn it over

to the drummer. With a fine flourish we felled the Prussian dragon; only, the excitement over, to sheathe our sword with a bored gesture and abandon the freed to shift for themselves. Having minded other people's business long enough to help extinguish the blaze in their home, we left them shivering amid the ruins while we promptly withdrew to mind our own.

For a while Europe will cleave to the illusion of America as the "big brother," rich, powerful, unselfish. Hope dies hard in the breast of man. But, from the top down, the plant is fated to wilt—is wilting even now as we watch.

What an opportunity lost! And what a pity!

* * *

With our prestige waning abroad, we cannot find counterbalancing comfort in contemplating conditions at home. Here, too, the year's record is one of hopes deferred. For peace and prosperity we reaped agitation, turmoil, apprehension. Labor returned from war and war's demands flushed with a sense of its power. But, instead of joining its tested strength to that of other constructive forces, upbuilding and healing, it boastfully proceeded to assert its separate interests by placing fresh emphasis on obsolete class distinctions, inventing new formulas of social disintegration, serving ultimatums on capital, throwing down the gauntlet to the government itself. Strike followed strike, until an exasperated public literally dreaded the morrow. Agreements were treated as so many scraps of paper. Such phrases as "loyalty," "co-operation," "fidelity to trust," "inviolability of contracts," lost all meaning in industrial relations. Self-interest, indifference to the rights of others, rule or ruin, became the new watchwords. Every settlement was understood to be merely a truce; every compromise was tacitly accepted as but a respite while forces were being mobilized for the next struggle.

We used to flatter ourselves that socialism could not thrive in American soil—that in a free democracy, where everyone was a potential capitalist, Marxism could not take lasting root. Something worse than socialism has invaded our industrial organism. By whatever name we choose to call it, the disease is gnawing at the very marrow of our institutions. Imprisonment or deportation of a few fanatics is but futile palliation. Suppressing symptoms does not remove the cause.

* * *

Industrially harrowing a field littered with exploding bombs, commercially we are tangoing on a volcano. The hectic condition of our foreign trade, if not soon remedied, must inevitably lead to disaster. A tremendous excess of exports, if sufficiently long continued, is a boomerang as fatal to the seller as to the buyer. Trade advantage not based on mutual solvency and ultimate parity of exchange is a woefully illusory thing. With Europe at the end of her financial tether, and

America refusing to extend further credit, what will happen to our home market when the bubble bursts?

A year closes on pledges unredeemed. A year opens with all manner of misgivings darkening the horizon. THE PRODUCER voices the hope that the next twelve months may see a few of the old wounds healed and some new anxieties proved unfounded.

GENERAL BUSINESS OUTLOOK

A YEAR OF DOUBT AND UNCERTAINTY in the business world closed with many apprehensions happily unrealized. While of necessity the problems of readjustment caused a large amount of unsettlement, the serious dislocations feared failed to materialize. Such disturbances in commerce and industry as did take place, and such unsolved problems as we carry with us into the new year, grew out of conditions only indirectly due to reaction from the strain of war conditions. The unprecedented labor unrest shows few signs of abatement as the new year opens. The soft-coal settlement in reality is only an armistice, fraught with a lot of potential mischief; the railroad unions are awaiting action at Washington before showing their hand; the strike of the steel-workers retains sufficient vitality seriously to restrict the output of the mills.

While our exports show signs of diminishing, and there has been a gratifying increase in imports toward the end of the year, the balance of trade is still alarmingly one-sided. Foreign exchange, in the opinion of some observers, has about reached its lowest level, but as yet gives little evidence of rallying. The question of extending credits to Europe in one form or another still holds the stage in financial and political circles.

Quotations in the iron and steel trade are advancing, big orders continuing to pile up, while production is increasing only at a slow pace. Copper is slightly lower. Lumber and other building materials evince a marked upward tendency, reflecting great activity in construction. Cotton is in large demand, with the official crop estimates recording a decrease of over 8 per cent from last year. Textiles show unusual strength for the season, with little prospect of lower prices on wearing apparel. Wool trade is at low ebb, with a noticeable scarcity of the finer qualities.

Conditions in the live-stock, hide, and feedstuff markets are covered elsewhere in these pages.

Some money stringency is reported in banking circles, which is reflected in the stock market. The general buying capacity of the public, however, seems undiminished, and the holiday trade set a new record.

Bradstreet's food index for the week ending December 27, 1919, was \$4.99, against \$5.10 the week before. This is a decline of 2.1 per cent—from which we all ought to derive considerable satisfaction.

RAILROADS TO BE RETURNED MARCH 1

IN HIS MESSAGE to Congress of last May, President Wilson intimated that the railroads would be turned back to their owners by the end of 1919. By that time Congress was expected to have enacted the necessary legislation. Its failure to pass any railway law made advisable a change in the date of return. The day before Christmas the President issued a proclamation announcing definitely that the railroads would be relinquished from federal control at 12:01 A. M., March 1, 1920.

The railroads were taken over on December 28, 1917. When returned on March 1, the period of government operation and control will thus have been twenty-six months. During this time Congress has made two appropriations for the roads: one of \$500,000,000, to cover operation deficits, and the other of \$750,000,000, to be used as a revolving fund and for the purchase of new equipment—this latter amount to be returned to the government.

When the railroads were taken over, Congress guaranteed them a rental of \$900,000,000 annually, based on the average income of a three-year test period. In the two years ending December 31, 1919, the government has incurred, in the operation of the roads, a deficit of approximately \$650,000,000. In 1918 operating revenue fell \$236,000,000 below the standard return; in 1919 it fell about \$250,000,000 under that amount; the remainder of the deficit of \$650,000,000 being incurred in the expenses of administration, inland waterways, etc.

The wage controversy was a serious and pressing one when the President assumed control of the roads, and a Railroad Wage Commission was promptly appointed to settle the matter. That commission reported on May 25, 1918, authorizing a general increase in the wages of two million railroad employees, aggregating \$300,000,000 annually. Owing to this wage advance and the increased cost of supplies, materials, etc., it was evident that the railroads would not be able to earn the government guarantee on the rates and charges then prevailing. Therefore, on June 25, 1918, all freight rates, both state and interstate, were advanced approximately 25 per cent; passenger fares were proportionately increased, and all special passenger rates were withdrawn. These advances were estimated to yield an increased revenue of from \$700,000,000 to \$800,000,000 annually. Since they were made, many additional increases in wages of railroad employees have been granted, and demands for still further increases are pending.

On the basis of the present wage scale and other costs, the present volume of traffic, and the rates now in effect, it is plain that the railroads cannot earn the government guarantee. It is assumed that the guar-

antee will be the minimum which they will endeavor to earn, and the probabilities are that they will try to exact a greater return. Therefore a further increase in rates will be imperative when the roads are returned, which will be augmented if the wage scale or other costs increase.

Congress has two months in which to pass some constructive railroad legislation. Directly before the holiday recess the Senate passed the Cummins bill. The House of Representatives had previously passed the Esch bill. These two measures differ materially in their fundamental provisions. The security-owners, bankers, railroad officials, railroad labor unions, and the various shipping organizations are lined up either for or against these measures. The bills are now in conference, and should be reported out some time in January.

This railroad legislation will be fully presented and discussed at the convention of the American National Live Stock Association in Spokane, January 27-29.

THE PRODUCERS' COMMITTEE OF FIFTEEN

THE ACTIVITIES of this committee and its sub-bodies, and the various conferences held with the packer representatives, are fully set forth in the June and July issues of this magazine. At the meeting of the committee on June 25-26 it was decided, among other things, to locate representatives at the important markets, so as to keep the committee and stockmen generally informed of marketing and meat conditions, and so far as possible to regulate receipts of live stock, etc. The inauguration of this plan was contingent upon the ability of the committee to secure sufficient money to defray the expense. A subcommittee was delegated to confer with the commission merchants and others relative to a proposition to collect the necessary funds through an assessment on all cars of live stock received at the different markets.

Since the June meeting of the Producers' Committee the American Farm Bureau Federation has been organized at Chicago, with ample funds. Among the duties which that federation has decided to assume are permanent representation at the various live-stock markets, and the performance of substantially the same duties as the Producers' Committee of Fifteen intended to undertake.

At a meeting held in Chicago on December 3 the Producers' Committee further considered the question of establishing representation at the different markets, and the financing of same, and decided that, under all the circumstances, it would be a duplication of effort, as well as an unnecessary expense, for the committee to establish market agencies, in view of the proposed action of the Farm Bureau Federation. A resolution was, therefore, adopted urging the Farm

Federation to speedily undertake this work, and pledging the co-operation of the members of the Producers' Committee.

There is no necessity for two organizations performing the same work, and the action of the Producers' Committee in thus co-operating with the American Farm Bureau Federation was wise and timely. With the Bureau of Markets representing the government, and another agency representing the live-stock shippers, some good may be accomplished in solving part of the market problems.

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS

IN THE LATE SUMMER the packers claimed that they were unable to sell any hog products abroad, and that the slump in the foreign demand left them with an accumulated stock which could not be disposed of except at a loss. This was the reason assigned for the sharp and tremendous drop in prices from 23 cents to the 12-cent level.

Reports of the Department of Commerce of exports of hog products for the months August-November, 1919, inclusive, show that there were exported in that period 558,546,865 pounds of pork products, compared with 558,096,046 pounds during the same four months in 1918—a slight increase during 1919. These exports were surprisingly uniform during the four months named in 1919, averaging approximately 140,000,000 pounds each month. Converted into live hogs, on the basis of 160 pounds carcass weight, the exports of pork products during the four months represented 3,500,000 hogs. Some trade, in view of the statements of the packers that no foreign demand existed! Stocks of pork products at the end of the year were less than at the time the decline in prices commenced.

Our exports of beef products for the first eleven months of 1919, as will be noticed from the tabulated statements printed elsewhere in this number, were comparatively large, notwithstanding the claim that this country was practically out of that branch of the business. In our judgment, the year 1920 will probably record a marked decline in our exports of all meat products.

Anent the beef situation in England, the following extract from the letter of our regular correspondent in London is especially interesting:

Supplies of meat at Smithfield market, London, during November totaled 25,815 tons, as against 20,042 tons a year ago—a rise of nearly 30 per cent. Beef and mutton accounted for this increase. Of the beef on the market 41.7 per cent was home-killed, and 42.9 per cent of the mutton. The cold stores of the country are stated to be crammed full at the present moment, there being at least 100,000 tons of frozen meat in store, with another 100,000 tons to arrive from Australia and New Zealand (principally the latter) in the present month and in January.

BUY YOUR COAL IN THE SPRING

IT MAY BE that in the universal anger provoked by the recent coal strike certain facts were overlooked which cannot be left out of account in any just evaluation of the causes leading up to the trouble, or in any successful scheme for their permanent removal. What the public saw in the action of the miners' organization was alone contempt of law, open defiance of the government, and the use by a comparatively small group of workers in an indispensable industry of the sufferings of a hundred million innocent and helpless people as a lever for promoting their private ends. What was generally lost sight of was the possible element of justice underlying the miners' claims and the extent to which the public itself was to blame for the conditions calling them forth.

On the face of it, the demand of the soft-coal miners for "a six-hour day and a five-day week" seemed little short of outrageous—it smacked repulsively of I.W.W.'ism and Bolshevism. But when it is understood that this was a minimum, not a maximum, demand, and that the men were in reality asking for the right to work longer hours than had been the practice heretofore, the matter—as far as motive is concerned, leaving method as reprehensible as ever—takes on a different aspect. Owing to the irregularity of output caused by seasonal fluctuations in the consumption of coal, periodical car shortages, difficulties of storage, the general laxity and inefficiency characterizing the management of many of the mines, and other causes, the time annually lost in the operation of the soft-coal fields of the United States is in the aggregate enormous. Thus, during the record-production year of 1918, out of the forty-eight hours nominally constituting a working week the average time put in by the bituminous-coal miner is reported to have been only thirty hours—meaning a loss of over one-third of his potential earnings. The busy winter season is followed by a dull period during the spring and summer, when a large proportion of the men are idle. But their expenses, like those of the rest of us, go on, and the High Cost of Living recognizes no off-months. What the miners profess to be asking for is opportunity to earn an amount which, considering present price-levels and distributed over the whole year, will represent a fair living wage.

Granting the basic justice of this contention, and waiving here any discussion of the various plans proposed for a settlement, until the necessary machinery has been set in motion, how can the public, which in any event must pay the bill, safeguard its own interests by contributing to a solution of the problem that will make less likely the recurrence of such a situation as confronted the country in the early days of December of last year? Any organized effort, of course, is out of the question—the National Federation of Consumers is still a thing of the future. But every private user

of coal, by the exercise of a little forethought, has it in his power to ameliorate conditions to the extent of his individual needs.

By laying in our supply of coal in the spring or early summer months, instead of waiting till winter is hard upon us, several desirable objects may be attained. Not only is coal generally cheaper at the mines, but a movement is under way to induce the railways to charge less for its transportation, at that season of the year. The chronic congestion during the fall months, when the roads are already taxed to their utmost capacity in moving the crops, would be avoided, resulting in prompter deliveries. The miners would be more evenly employed, at a higher yearly wage, to the general improvement of their living conditions and their temper. Any excess in output would be easily disposed of—half of the world is now clamoring for American coal. The paramount incentive, however, would be the insurance which this simple remedy provides against a coal famine in midwinter like the one from which we have just so narrowly escaped. The fear of a repetition of that experience should be enough to bring about this little reform.

Unfortunately, man is a creature of habit, and his memory is short. Where are the snows of yesteryear, and who bothers about zero temperatures, past or prospective, when the Dog Star rules the firmament? Nevertheless we repeat:

Buy your coal in the spring!

STOCK FROM DROUGHT TERRITORY DID NOT THRIVE ON NORTHERN PASTURES

MANY OF THE STOCKMEN who shipped cattle and sheep from the drought area of the Northwest to the cut-over land in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan will not soon repeat the experiment. In some cases their stock did not weigh so much at market as when shipped into that territory. Unsatisfactory reports are also being received from cattlemen who shipped to other grazing sections in the North. There is a vast difference between the feeding value of the sappy, luxuriant grass in some of the states and the native forage of the short-grass range territory.

COLORADO FARMERS INDORSE K-K BILLS

THE FARMERS' CONGRESS OF COLORADO, composed of representatives from all the agricultural organizations of the state, held its annual meeting at the Agricultural College at Fort Collins during the week of December 16-20. Among the resolutions adopted was the following:

"Resolved, That we approve as helpful and needful legislation the measures now pending before Congress, known as the Kendrick-Kenyon bills, relative to government regulation of the meat-packing industry; and be it further

"Resolved, That we do hereby request our senators and congressmen to support said measures, and earnestly endeavor to secure their passage through Congress."

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

THE PRODUCER invites the stockmen of the country to take advantage of its columns to present their views on problems of the day as they affect their industry. It solicits correspondence on topics of common concern, such as stock, crop, and weather conditions, doings of state and local organizations, records of transactions of more than individual interest. Make it your medium of exchange for live-stock information between the different sections of the stock-raising region. Address all communications to THE PRODUCER, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado.

CUMMINS BILL SHOULD BE DEFEATED

FORT WORTH, TEX., December 27, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have hesitated to write for THE PRODUCER concerning railroad legislation, because the subject is so technical and difficult to understand that an article dealing intelligently with it is impracticable when it comes to consideration of the details and merits of the provisions of the different bills as compared with the present law. I, therefore, must content myself with a statement of conclusions in connection with the facts pertaining to our activity in the matter.

Through the American National Live Stock Association, the National Live Stock Shippers' League, and some of the constituent organizations of live-stock producers we have been more active at Washington during the past year, at all of the hearings and relative to every feature of the railroad legislation, than any other shippers' organization in the country.

Most people seemed to have an idea that Congress was going to enact beneficial laws looking to the relief of shippers. Hence they gave the subject little attention. I have no doubt that the members of Congress and the committees having the matter in charge still believe they are going to do just that. But the activity in the way of preparation of bills and theories and plans under which the railroads are to be turned back to their owners and operated in the future has so far been in favor of the big interests, with which the shippers have always had their controversies and always will. These interests are more concerned about the speculative feature of railroad securities than about any other. They are represented by the people who expect to have the appointing of the principal officers of the railroads, and to direct their policy. Both the Esch and the Cummins bills are full of this. The idea is to centralize everything at Washington, and to work out a scheme that will eliminate the state railroad commissions and all state authority, remove competition between carriers, permit consolidations, give to the railroads a guaranty from the government until they can get the rates remade, and then a guaranty of earnings; thus preventing the Interstate Commerce Commission from exercising its discretion with regard to the making of rates, and leaving matters where the shipper would be better off just to allow the railroads to make all their rates them-

selves, rather than to fool with the commission with its hands tied. No doubt a great many people think that a wonderful scheme has been devised; but from years of experience, and after analyzing these bills, my opinion of them is as here stated. In their framework they are vitally at variance with each other.

It is my judgment that the Cummins bill should be defeated. Considered as a whole, it has not in it the making of a measure which would benefit the shipper in the slightest degree. The Esch bill has been amended, at our suggestion, in some important particulars—especially with respect to retention of the power by the states in regard to the operation of the railroads and elimination of rate-making standards. The Cummins bill in express terms reserves the right of the states to exercise police power in the making of rates, but the scheme of the bill is such that this would be impossible. I know of no experienced man connected with railroad transportation and rates who disagrees with this conclusion.

Some of our members no doubt have been led to believe that the guaranty of 5½ per cent would look fair to the railroads. That is not the proposition. Singled out as an individual item, of course no one could say that the railroads are earning too much at 5½ per cent, or even more—and in some instances considerably more. But what this bill proposes is to divide this entire country into rate-making groups, and provide that the aggregate of all the earnings in each group should equal 5½ per cent of all the property in that particular group. It does not give to the well-managed and efficiently operated railroads what they are entitled to by reason of their thrift and energy, but takes it away from them and delivers it to the Transportation Board to spend as it pleases. It is not giving anything to the weaker lines, and does not guarantee them any 5½ per cent. The whole scheme is a chimerical, visionary plan of stabilizing railroad securities. It takes from the shipper more than he ought to pay to the well-operated railroads, but does not allow the roads to keep it. Instead, it turns it over to the government, thus destroying all incentive to efficiency and good service, as well as any desire on the part of the big roads to get other traffic than what naturally flows to them.

Senator Cummins' plan, as he views it, would not work out that way; but it is my opinion that he is thoroughly mistaken as to what would be the results of such a bill, if it could be enacted. The House, however, will not pass it. I do not believe there is a shipper anywhere, understanding it, who would indorse it. It would leave us with a system of railroads consolidated just as far as they wanted to, with all competition eliminated, state authority destroyed, and the details of operation in control of agents appointed by the Transportation Board to direct exchange, interchange, supply, and movement of cars and traffic, besides putting classified employees on the boards of directors of the roads in part, and men selected by the Transportation Board in part—men not interested in the property or desired by its owners.

Thus really the Cummins bill would take away from the railroads private ownership and responsibility. To read it understandingly is sufficient to convince anyone that it will not do for the ordinary shipper at all. It would destroy most of his rights and remedies. The anti-strike feature seems to have been thoroughly prepared, but there is no chance whatever for that to pass the House, as is manifested by the vote already taken there. What our opponents want is to get away from state control and reasonable rates, and to substitute a standard minimum that ties the commission's hands, as it can never tell what the earnings will be in a given group.

For several years to come we shall have a high level of rates. That will be necessary in order to make the railroads self-supporting. Those rates will be so high as to burden business enormously. The people will have to see to it that the high-finance scheme of operation, by bankers in New York and elsewhere, of the railroads of the country comes down to a proposition that puts them on their mettle, spurring them on to increased efficiency and economies of operation, and compelling them to work for their money, like their patrons, with a premium on thrift. Increased rates often mean reduced traffic. Hence there is a limit to what railroads can earn. The live-stock producer always has to pay whatever the rate is on what he ships, and it is added to what he buys. This is so with all forms of production. All this talk about the big shippers and manufacturing interests being willing to advance rates amounts to nothing, because they are adding the freight to the price. The fight is on the part of the shippers and the farm producers against the concentration of power at Washington sought by the great financial interests which, if I mistake not, pretty nearly control our public affairs.

What we have to do for a remedy is to let our representatives and senators know that we are thinking about these things, and that they are our servants. Possessing that remedy, we still shall have a big undertaking to secure our rights. The exigencies and difficulties are greater than ever before.

S. H. COWAN.

1919 DISASTROUS YEAR FOR WYOMING STOCKMAN

McKINLEY, WYO., December 22, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The year 1919 will go down in history as one of the most disastrous that the live-stock industry of Wyoming has ever experienced. The drought during the summer was so protracted that when fall rains finally came they were too late to be of any benefit to live stock, and, on account of the fact that there was practically no grass anywhere in the state, all live stock went into the winter in a weakened condition.

To add to the woes of the stockman, severe winter weather set in on October 2, and was with us continuously until December 15. At the date this is written we have had nice weather for one week, and the ranges in central Wyoming are pretty well cleared of snow for the first time in about six weeks. The winter to date has been extremely cold, with a great deal of wind, and stock has suffered accordingly. To add to the seriousness of the situation, the railroads have been behind on orders for stock cars for shipment, both to market and to pastures in the Southwest. Now that they have the lines clear, however, the railroads are making every effort to furnish stock cars and to expedite the movements of feedstuffs to the range.

The increasing car shortage each fall is a serious problem, and should have the attention of the live-stock associations as well as railroad officials. Had the railroads been able to furnish cars promptly, it would have saved the stockmen in Wyoming a very considerable loss.

Early in the summer, when it was apparent that there

would be no grass, a number of stockmen shipped both cattle and sheep to "Cloverland" (the Upper Peninsula of Michigan). In nearly all cases their experience was disappointing. The consensus of opinion among those who shipped seems to be that, while "Cloverland" may be excellent for small bunches of stock, it is not suitable for running stock under range conditions.

There has been a great deal of stock shipped to pastures in Texas and New Mexico, and the movement is continuing in full swing, as fast as railroads can furnish cars. The movement of both sheep and cattle to the markets and to the Southwest has been extremely large, and it is safe to say that, when the 1920 census is taken, Wyoming will be woefully short in live-stock population.

In central Wyoming they are now making a general round-up and gathering all the cattle on the range. They have shipped in a large quantity of hay to feed the cattle, and, unless the owner claims them and takes them to feed, they are to be shipped to market. The result of this round-up will be that there will be practically no cattle left on the range in central Wyoming; and I presume that similar conditions exist elsewhere in the state.

Owing to the fact that the winter set in so much earlier than usual, thus necessitating heavy feeding of stock, nearly everyone who is wintering his stock in Wyoming finds himself short of feed and is endeavoring to take care of this shortage by heavy shipments of feed and by shipping out his stock. Unless we have a continuation of the present spell of good weather, thus allowing the stockman to increase his reserves of feedstuffs, Wyoming stockmen will suffer a considerable loss on the stock they are wintering at home.

I want to take this means of complimenting you on *THE PRODUCER*. This paper fills a long-felt want of the stock interests, and should have the hearty support of all the stockmen in the country.

J. B. WILSON,

Secretary, Wyoming Wool Growers' Association.

ACTIVITIES OF CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., December 29, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

A wonderfully successful convention at San Francisco during the live-stock show, and our annual meeting on December 13, marked the close of an exceptionally active year on the part of the California Cattlemen's Association.

Owing to the pressure of personal business, which he has neglected during the past two years in order to devote his time the more freely to the interests of the cattlemen, L. A. Nares declined the nomination for president of the association for the ensuing year. The newly elected president—Fred H. Bixby, of Long Beach—is well known to a large number of your readers, having been a member of the Executive Committee of the American National Live Stock Association for many years. He brings to the office an intimate and exhaustive knowledge of the cattle business, based on many years of successful experience.

It has for some time been recognized in California that the agricultural industry of the state has been extremely modest, to say the least, when it came to the matter of legislation beneficial to its interests. No concerted effort has heretofore been made to further the cause of the farmer, the horticulturist, and the cattleman in the passage of such legislation. To overcome this condition, delegates from all the agricultural organizations of the state recently met and created a Horticultural and Agricultural Legislative Committee, which will actively operate in furthering protective measures on behalf of the different branches of the industry. L. A. Nares was

appointed on this committee as representing the live-stock interests.

While the membership of our association is but 1,300—only about one-fourth of what it should be—sufficient has already been achieved to warrant the interest of those cattlemen who have not yet seen the light of organized co-operation. Under the leadership of T. H. Ramsay, chairman of our Membership Committee, a membership campaign will immediately be set in motion, which, it is hoped, will bring about an 80 per cent cattle membership.

There is a marked disinclination on the part of the majority of our cattlemen to institute stock-yards as a means of bettering our market conditions. With the idea of taking some step to improve the situation, auction sales of prime cattle will shortly be inaugurated in co-operation with the Farm Bureau, which some time ago initiated auction sales of hogs that proved eminently satisfactory.

On the whole, feed conditions are fair in most sections of the state, excepting possibly the central north.

Effort is being made to send a strong delegation of California cattlemen to the convention at Spokane, which I trust will be in every way successful.

DAVID J. STOLLERY,
Secretary, California Cattlemen's Association.

THE PUBLIC WILL PAY

* LIMESTONE, MONT., December 26, 1919.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have noticed the doings of the Big Five in Washington. Personally I can see nothing of benefit to the farmer or stockman in this latest chapter chronicling the dropping by the packers of a few dozen side lines. As in the settlement of the coal strike, the public will pay the bill. They (the public) will swallow all this political palaver, hook, line, and sinker. Maybe they will "come to" after the investigation is over. The agreements of the packers among themselves should be exposed to the public. The producer wants, and is entitled to, honest competition when he sells.

As you no doubt know, we have had a very hard winter so far up here, and there have been some very heavy losses.

I am wishing the Market Committee, and those interested in it, a prosperous New Year.

DUDLEY WHITE.

THE CALENDAR

January 15-17, 1920 — Annual Convention of Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, Cheyenne, Wyo.

January 16-17, 1920 — Annual Convention of Colorado Stock Growers' Association, Denver, Colo.

January 17-24, 1920—National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.

January 19-21, 1920—Annual Convention of National Wool Growers' Association, Salt Lake City, Utah.

January 22-24, 1920 — Annual Meeting of Nevada Live Stock Association, Reno, Nev.

January 27-29, 1920—Twenty-third Annual Convention of American National Live Stock Association, Spokane, Wash.

January 29-31, 1920 — Annual Convention of Kansas Live Stock Association, Wichita, Kan., in connection with Kansas National Live Stock Show.

March 10-15, 1920 — Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, Fort Worth, Tex.

March 16-18, 1920 — Forty-fourth Annual Convention of Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas, Houston, Tex.

Conference Week, April, 1920—Fat Stock Show of Inter-Mountain Stock Show Association, Salt Lake City, Utah

ARE WE TO HAVE A MEAT SHORTAGE IN 1920?

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., January 1, 1920.

A LIGHT DECEMBER CATTLE RUN has served to emphasize the shrinkage in 1919 receipts at western markets compared with the previous year, when flood tide in trade history was reached. This has elicited new opinion on the always debatable subject of impending shortage. It emanates on both sides of the Atlantic. That the British are concerned over their future beef supply has been evident for some time past, as prior to the war the British masses had access to the cheapest beef on this mundane sphere. J. H. McCurdy, Parliamentary Secretary to the British Food Ministry, sounded an alarm in the House of Commons the other day when he stated the prospect from a British viewpoint. In part he said:

"A scramble for meat imports appears inevitable, if Europe has the money to buy food in 1920. It is a situation full of menace—made more menacing by the fact that a great meat trust is ready to exploit the position to its advantage. A group of North American packers already controls a large part of the surplus meat of the world."

Amplifying his statement, he declared that next year Britain would need more than 1,000,000 tons of meat, and the rest of Europe 3,000,000 tons, while the exportable surplus of Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, and South America is but 1,210,000 tons. British stocks of meat-producing animals, he asserted, are much below pre-war levels, while the total stock of Europe has been reduced one-third. The British papers have taken the matter up, the London *Times* taking the position that further depletion of domestic flocks and herds should be prevented. England especially is "all worked up" over the prospect of meat shortage.

An American opinion is by Melville F. Horine, statistician for the Chicago stock-yards, who ventures the prediction that the impending beef-cattle shortage cannot be remedied until 1927. He says:

"Not until 1927, or later, will it be possible for this country to have a normal supply of beef steers ready for slaughter, provided that in the meantime no obstacle, such as droughts, failures, financial panics, war, or disease epidemics, occurs to extend the time still further.

"In the meantime the population is growing at a nominal rate of over 2 per cent per annum, and, while we have an absolute decrease in the number of beef cattle in the country since 1907, there is a further shrinkage of 100 to 200 pounds per head in the average weight of those sent to market, making an enormous increase in the deficiency of beef, which not only explains the advance in prices, but shows that a relative scarcity must continue for at least seven years to come.

"I cannot accept the cattle estimates of the Department of Agriculture, according to which there were 11,000,000 head, or 20 per cent, more cattle in the United States on January 1, 1919, than at the corresponding time in 1914. Excessive marketing during the war is no indication of overproduction, but rather of depletion. A cattle increase during the last four years at the seven principal markets of 6,000,000 head, or more than 83 per cent, means rapid destruction. Even according to government figures, while there has been an increase since 1910 of approximately 19,000,000, or over 20 per cent, in population, there has been an estimated increase of only about 6,000,000 head, or less than 10 per cent, in cattle, together with a marked decrease in average weight; all of which means a tremendous decrease in beef supply relative to the population."

Skepticism concerning the reliability of government guess-timates centers interest in the compilation on live-stock population of the country now in the completion stage. It purports to be nothing but an estimate, and has been facetiously referred to as a "guesstimate." Will the federal figure-jugglers, in view of a decrease of over a million head of cattle at the principal markets of the United States in 1919, compared with the previous year, persist in enumerating an increase in production?

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

THE RETREAT OF THE TICK

UP TO DECEMBER 1, 1919, more than 50,555 square miles had been freed of the cattle-fever tick, announces the Bureau of Animal Industry. On that date the quarantine against the movement of cattle was lifted from 46,921 square miles, while on September 15 an area of 3,634 square miles had been released. The 1919 releases do not make the year, in point of territory placed in the free area, the greatest year for tick eradication, but they indicate much consolidation work and "mopping up" in areas previously released. In 1906 the quarantine line extended from Virginia to Texas, and reappeared in California. The war on the parasite has driven it out of California, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Mississippi—completely in the four states first named, and sufficiently in the last two to justify their release from quarantine.

The territory released last year was in six states, as follows: 12,991 square miles in Alabama, 9,299 in Louisiana, 8,847 in Texas, 8,130 in Arkansas, 6,942 in Georgia, and 4,346 in Oklahoma. Alabama's release is credited to the operation of the state-wide tick-eradication law which became effective last spring. No releases were ordered in Florida and North Carolina, where preparations are being made for strong attacks this year. In Louisiana only seven parishes are left under quarantine, which, it is expected, will be freed in 1920. In Texas gains have been made in a number of areas, including Tarrant County, where the Fort Worth stock-yards are located. This means that ticky cattle cannot be shipped there except under quarantine restrictions.

ANIMAL TUBERCULOSIS ON THE WANE

ANALYSIS OF THE REPORTS regarding tuberculosis in cattle and swine issued during the last three years by the Department of Agriculture indicates an encouraging decrease in the percentage of animals found to be infected with this disease. The figures, based on post-mortem results at federally inspected meat-packing establishments at eight important market centers, show that the proportion of animals condemned for tuberculosis for the year ended June 30, 1917, was 0.51 per cent of the whole number slaughtered; for 1918, condemnations for the same cause had decreased to 0.38 per cent, and in 1919 they had dropped to 0.32 per cent.

The reports regarding swine at the same eight markets show that the percentage condemned for tuberculosis in 1917 was 0.244; in 1918, 0.199; and in 1919, 0.17 per cent.

It is noteworthy that the percentage of tuberculosis in swine declined along with the decrease in the disease among cattle. The figures support the belief that swine are infected principally from cattle, infection being spread in most cases either by feeding unpasteurized skim milk, by allowing hogs to eat tuberculous carcasses or offal, or by permitting the hogs to follow diseased cattle in feed-lots and pastures.

COURSE IN MARKETING FOR CO-OPERATIVE SHIPPERS

A SHORT COURSE in marketing for managers of co-operative live-stock shipping associations was held in Kansas City, Mo., on November 24-26, 1919. Methods of grading beef cattle and fat hogs, accounting systems for association managers, and the grading of stocker and feeder cattle were studied. Addresses were given by representatives of the Bureau of Markets, in which the market-reporting service of the bureau was fully explained, and by representatives of the Stock Yard Company and the Live Stock Exchange, who called attention to the increased development of co-operative marketing of live stock. The grading of sheep and lambs was explained by packer buyers and representatives of commission firms. The lots graded were inspected on the hooks in the packing plant the following day, when dressing percentages and the wholesale prices on the dressed product were supplied by officials of the company.

On December 20 a similar course was held at Denver, Colo.

PRESIDENT RECOMMENDS LICENSING FOR INTERSTATE COMMERCE

IN HIS MESSAGE, read at the opening of the regular session of the Sixty-sixth Congress, President Wilson included the following recommendation for legislation aimed at reducing the cost of living:

"We should formulate a law requiring a federal license of all corporations engaged in interstate commerce, and embodying in the license, or in the conditions under which it is to be issued, specific regulations designed to secure competitive selling and prevent unconscionable profits in the method of marketing. Such a law would afford a welcome opportunity to effect other much-needed reforms in the business of interstate shipment and in the methods of corporations which are engaged in it."

NEW GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION

BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1920, the *Market Reporter*—a periodical devoted to marketing information concerning important agricultural products—will be issued weekly by the Bureau of Markets. It will be sent free to those interested who make request and supply certain information on blanks to be had from the bureau.

The government continues to give plenty of rope to the Reds, but it is not bestowed in the right place or manner.—*Columbia Record*.

The general situation seems to be pretty well summed up in the confession of an Atchison negro: "I sleeps well, and I eats well, but somehow I has no desiah to work."—*Kansas City Star*.

THE MARKETS

MARKET CONDITIONS AT END OF YEAR

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., January 1, 1920.

Cattle Market Convulsive

AN ORGY IN THE CATTLE MARKET toward the end of the year emphasized what had happened previously. In two days—the 15th and 16th of December, to be exact—prices broke \$2 to \$3 per cwt. precipitously. As is always the case, more or less plausible reason was assigned, the chief being a break in hides and collapse of the tallow market; but, as cattle carry little tallow under present production conditions, the latter excuse had a strained appearance. During December the hide market is usually dormant; on this occasion it practically disappeared, as quotations were merely nominal, putting a crimp in the operations of the small killer, who is under the necessity of making a quick turn-over, while the big packer is able to carry hides in the cellar when he is not a tanner. Whatever caused it, the \$2 to \$3 break was recorded. But, as usual, recovery was prompt; at least \$1.50 to \$2 of the depreciation being repaired before the end of the following week; and, pursuing stereotyped tactics, packers refused to buy on the tail end of the break, on the theory that the same kind of cattle would be available at less money later. This is one of the chief causes of these wide and apparently unnecessary price swings.

On this occasion a selling panic developed. Salesmen's panics reflect regularly recurring psychology. When they occur, nothing at the stock-yards retains a recognized standard of value, as the effort to jettison holdings—or "get a ticket," to use stock-yard parlance—prompts sellers to accept the first bid. This frame of mind is contagious, buyers taking alarm at the prospect of acquiring beef on a falling market, resulting in stagnancy; a period developing when, to use vernacular, cattle are not worth the hides on their backs, meaning inability to elicit bids. Buyers invariably put blame on "the fools in the beef-house" in such emergencies. That the system is wrong somewhere cannot be disputed; otherwise the \$2 to \$3 decline on the rank and file of beef steers the third week of December, followed by an advance of \$1.50 to \$2 per cwt. Christmas week, would have been impossible. It made feeders, who were mulcted to the tune of \$25 to \$35 a head, swallow a nauseous dose of medicine. After the buoyant trade of early December, it was a revelation of the unpleasant variety, seriously impairing what little confidence remained in feeding circles. Commission-house correspondence promptly swelled to enormous volume, indicating a determination on the part of cattle-holders to get their money back in the bank where it could be counted.

Little consolation is to be derived from the fact that promptly following these breaks the market "comes back." The trade lays stress on this—probably for want of better argument; for the average stock-trader is by intuition an optimist. The week of the big break I asked a commission man if he intended to send out a circular explaining things. "Not with my experience," he replied. "Never communicate with the country, unless you are in a position to say something encouraging. They'll resent it." On the other hand, an advance will freight the mails with admonition to "get your cattle here without delay."

This system, if it may be dignified by that term, appears

satisfactory to killers; otherwise they would be less complacent. It plays bob with the man who markets one or two crops of cattle annually, and who happens to be caught in such a vicious slump as occurred at mid-December. The near-panic lasted two days, and, while it was on, nobody at the market had a lucid idea of what cattle were worth, the same kinds selling several dollars apart. On that break thousands of bullocks that had been more or less effectively crossed on corn sold at \$11 to \$12 per cwt.—or less than when put into the feed-lot; a week later they were ready sale at \$13 to \$14. Bullocks worth \$13 to \$16 on the low spot reacted to \$15 to \$18 in a scramble for beef that, if predicted a few days previously, would have elicited derision. It must be admitted that a heavy movement during the first half of December was a contributing cause, Chicago receiving 200,000 head during that period, with correspondingly generous supply at other points. This probably alarmed killers, prompting them to back away under an impression that every steer in the country was headed toward the shambles.

Trade Sentiment Pessimistic

In view of what has happened recently, sentiment in trade circles is anything but optimistic. Observers have noticed that every sharp break, although followed by a reaction, puts prices a peg lower, the trend being steadily downward. This is responsible for nervousness and lack of confidence, especially when cattle were laid in high. Much of the October and November investment was predicated on dollar corn—a hope that proved illusive, as the bull party has been in control of the pit market, country sentiment has been the reverse of bearish, and in many localities feeders with high-priced cattle on hand have been unable to secure corn without shipping in, leaving them no alternative but order cars. That most of the cattle laid in for a short feed are for sale at the earliest possible moment admits of no doubt. The dollar-corn prospect has gone glimmering, hay is high, roughage scarce, and the fat-cattle market disposed to slip; consequently cattle sold are considered well disposed of, regardless of what they realize. To make matters worse, the assessor is beginning his rounds, prompting live-stock owners to beat the tax bill by the doubtful process of unloading prematurely. In this respect personal taxation methods are vicious, no logical reason existing why cattle, hogs, and sheep in the preparation stage, and intended to go to market within thirty days, should be penalized by an assessment for the current year. It discourages production, inflicts loss on feeders, and does not add materially to local or state revenue. All indications point to a free movement of cattle, most of them merely warmed up, during January and February. By March the visible supply will be in stronger hands, as only a small percentage of regulars will feed out, the rank and file of beef-makers having a well-defined hunch that cattle values are headed toward lower levels. With liquidation over, the market ought to give a good account of itself. Certainly long-fed cattle will be scarce, as feeders took punishment on that kind during the first half of 1919, which is still a sore spot in memory.

Choice Cattle Scoring New Records

Choice cattle have been making new records. Kansas City registered a \$23 sale in December, a new record being made in Chicago at \$21.50, or \$1 per cwt. higher than last year, when the previous record was made. The show sale at the International was a success, \$22.50 to \$30 per cwt. being the basis of appraisal of much of the bovine aggregation that went through the auction; but, as a criterion of the basis on which the bulk of the dressed beef cattle has sold, these prices are deceptive, \$11 to \$15 taking a large percentage of the crop. It has been a season of abnormal scarcity of cattle dressing 55 per cent or better, and, although steers usually

improve in condition as the winter works along, this will be less perceptible during the first three months of 1920, owing to the difficulty under which feeding is now conducted, and to an unpromising market. Hence the few finished cattle are likely to get remunerative prices. Ordinarily February and March develop a high market for common steers. This year Texas will be in a position to make a somewhat generous contribution—and Texas has acquired a reputation for price-smashing both in cattle and sheep. The accumulation of frozen beef in packers' hands is the smallest in many years; which may be variously construed, as, when stocks are heavy, packers are interested in maintaining prices to valorize their holdings.

Choice cattle having disappeared from the market, the \$20 quotation is no longer in service, but its reinstatement from time to time is probable, as every hotel in the country is full from cellar to attic, and a considerable quantity of good beef is required daily to take care of their needs. Likewise labor is well employed at high wages, and eating meat in enormous quantity, creating a healthy merchandising situation; handicapped, however, by the heavy toll which consumers are compelled to pay distributors—an impost that would be impossible if the purchasing capacity of the public was even slightly curtailed.

General Price Level Lower Than Year Ago

All cattle are somewhat lower than at the inception of 1919, especially such heavy, coarse steers as were then eligible to a premium on government account, but are now selling on their merits. The first quarter of 1919 witnessed a high market, as exports were still of considerable volume and Uncle Sam a heavy buyer; but, when the United States government stepped out, a stout prop was pulled from under the market, and, with the exception of a few specialties, the general average of prices has been working to a lower level ever since. Eventually bottom will be reached; when, is the insoluble conundrum.

An interesting stock-cattle situation will develop within the next ninety days. Values in this branch of the trade are still out of line with fat cattle, and will be. The fall movement into the Corn Belt and territory east of Chicago was mainly of cattle that will have been converted into beef by May 1, and an incredible number will be required to stock pastures east of the Missouri River for summer grazing. Texas is still restocking; the Northwest will be in the market for cattle, provided grass reasserts its sway; and it is probable that packers will compete with finishers on every load of bullocks carrying a beef covering, so that the country will be under the necessity of paying stiff prices or going without cattle. Far-sighted operators are picking up cattle on every break, realizing that there will be no possibility of bargain sales as the winter works along. Demoralization in fat-cattle trade has repressed investment in heavy bullocks at \$12 to \$13 for short feeding, but there is no lack of demand for light stockers with decent quality at \$9.50 to \$10.50.

Hog Market Rallying

Car shortage has interfered with the primary hog movement, the November and December run, especially at Missouri River markets, having been unusually light, western markets having actually been higher than Chicago early in December. A deficient crop has been industriously advertised, but this cannot develop until late in the season; tonnage cannot be disputed, as hogs are reaching market fat as seals and with good weight. The \$12 campaign inaugurated by packers early in December made good progress for a while, average cost at Chicago the third week of the month reaching \$12.40 per cwt.—the lowest since 1917; but at that juncture eastern hogs showed signs of running out, shippers from that quarter wired liberal orders to Chicago, and the tide turned, drove cost advancing \$1.50 per cwt. in a week. Armour—usually a domi-

nating factor all through the winter packing season—has been deprived of all semblance of control except at rare intervals, as, whenever it was possible to buy at \$13.50 to \$13.75, the smaller outfits have exhibited voracity. Twelve-dollar prediction is no longer audible, consensus of trade opinion being that the low spot for the winter packing season was uncovered at the middle of December. Packers will make strenuous effort to hold values down through January and February, and under liberal receipts may be successful in doing so; but sooner or later substantial advances will be inevitable. Unlike cattle trade, the hog market enjoys keen competition, precluding all possibility of one-man control. Despite the abnormal foreign-exchange situation, large quantities of meats and lard are being exported, Germany having been a heavy purchaser of the latter commodity recently, and Great Britain being dependent entirely on the United States for replenishment. The market is in much better position technically than a month back, and better than most people in the trade expected it to be. Domestic consumption, impaired by war exigencies, is improving, and, when the time arrives, packers will undoubtedly be interested in a higher market to enable them to collect inventory profits.

Sheep in the Ascent

A boom in the sheep-house during December merely meant that the market had burst through its bonds. At the low spot in November \$14 took the kind of lambs worth \$18 at Christmas, a few prime lambs reaching \$18.50. Yearlings advanced from \$13 to \$16, wethers from \$10 to \$12, and ewes from \$7.50 to \$10.50. During the long period of liquidation necessitated by the northwestern drought this branch of the trade was continuously demoralized; cashing a large crop of native lambs in eastern territory accentuated this condition, and the huge purchase of thin western lambs made by Iowa during the July-to-October period went to market pell-mell, many not realizing first cost. Now that natives are out of the way, Iowa has cashed the bulk of its holdings, and the major part of the visible supply is in feed-lots west of the Missouri River, a high market may be expected, especially if wool retains the impregnable position it appears to occupy at present. Colorado feeders should get good money for this season's lamb crop, if it is marketed judiciously. There is no relationship between this and other branches of the trade, as the events of the past two years have abundantly demonstrated.

CONSERVATISM KEYNOTE AT KANSAS CITY

BY SAMUEL SOSLAND

KANSAS CITY, Mo., January 1, 1920.

WHILE LIGHT SUPPLIES of cattle are in prospect from the Southwest, the trade interests of the Kansas City market are not enthusiastic over price developments. Too many cattle are held in the territory east of Kansas City, it is felt, to create a bullish market. Another factor which makes for conservatism in gauging the price outlook with the opening of the new year is the likelihood that the foreign demand for beef will continue below the volume of last winter.

Kansas, usually the principal source of fed-cattle supplies on the Kansas City yards at this season, is feeding an extremely light number. The state has a smaller area in winter wheat, much of which has lately been covered with sleet; so cattle fattened on wheat-fields—a feature of the market in January a year ago—promise to be scarce. In Oklahoma and Texas feeding at cottonseed-oil mills is light. The feeding of cattle at the sugar-beet mills of Nebraska is also on a comparatively light scale, with cows predominating instead of steers. There is a tendency to anticipate reduced offerings from Idaho and states of the Pacific coast, which were greater than ever here in 1919.

Texas is one of the most uncertain factors in the supply situation. The fact that the Lone Star State reduced her sales of cattle the past fall, owing to abundance of feed, together with the large numbers received from the drought-stricken areas of the Northwest, leads some trade observers to predict liberal supplies from that source in coming months.

With the opening of a new year, increased attention is focused on the contracting of cattle on ranges for movement to Kansas and Oklahoma summer pastures in the spring. There has been less contracting thus far than in years for spring delivery. The grazers operating in Kansas appear determined first to obtain sharp concessions in rental rates on pastures. They are also uncertain over the price outlook, while a year ago enthusiasm prevailed, owing in part to the large profits which were realized in 1918. The stockmen who were enthusiastic a year ago are cautious today.

While stocker and feeder cattle prices are \$2 to \$4 lower than a year ago, there is only a moderate demand. Current tops on stockers are around \$11, with the best feeders around \$12. Feeder buyers paid up to \$14 in December for fleshy cattle in competition with packers. Fed cattle show somewhat larger declines from a year ago than stockers and feeders; hence the moderate demand. Short-fed steers are quoted mainly between \$11 and \$14.50.

Tightening of money markets and advances in the rediscount rates of the Federal Reserve banks may result in increases in the rates on some cattle loans in 1920, according to present indications.

Hogs are in lighter supply than cattle in the Southwest. The trade here is mostly bullish on prices.

Sheep and lambs are making the most profitable showing for feeders. This market is surrounded by bullish conditions, and there is talk already of \$20 fat lambs, with reduced supplies.

COLORADO LAMB SUPPLY SHORT

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., January 1, 1920.

COLORADO LAMBS began running early this year, the December advance in prices, plus high cost of feed, prompting feeders to top out. The winter supply does not exceed two-thirds of last year's output, and is mainly in the northern part of the state, the Arkansas and San Luis valleys putting in a few. Colorado feeders waited until the eleventh hour to fill up, and were then unable to secure their usual complement of thin lambs.

January found the market for good lambs on an \$18 to \$18.50 basis, but, as medium warmed-up stuff was appraised at \$17.50, there was little inducement to put on a high finish. The probability is that Colorado will finish few lambs, as the temptation to market warmed-up stuff at present feed cost is irresistible. The winter crop will be topped out through January, February, and March, so that by the middle of April feedlots will be practically empty. Last year the prospect of a high spring market prompted speculators to gather stuff in the Northwest to finish and shear at feeding stations around Chicago, causing a disastrous break that cost participants in the scramble enough money to start a husky national bank. Repetition of this will be impossible, as the necessary thin stock is not available in the Northwest.

Wider spreads between finished and warmed-up lambs are probable as the season works along. Violent fluctuations in values of short-fed stuff are assured, as buyers will go to them greedily on short runs, lying down when they get access to a few more than they actually need on any session.

Conditions under which the crop of Colorado lambs is marketed now differ radically from those of a few years ago when Chicago absorbed the bulk. These lambs are now distributed between Denver, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Joseph, and Chicago, the market absorbing them imperceptibly. Denver will take a larger proportion of the crop than heretofore, and it is probable that Omaha will stop an unusual number, unless eastern markets go out of sight, creating a shipping demand at Chicago that will pull stuff that way.

STOCKER MARKET DESTINED TO ADVANCE

A WISCONSIN MAN who grazes about a thousand head of cattle each summer in the Mineral Point country several weeks ago gave his commission man an open order to buy steers for next season. He has since paid for several hundred head at \$10.75 to \$11.65 per cwt. "I expect to have all the cattle I can use by the middle of February," he said. "Remember what happened last season, about the time grass appeared? Everybody was forced into a scramble for cattle that sent prices to a level which made a profit in the finality of the transaction impossible. It was a case of pay big money for steers or let grass go to waste, putting the grazer in a quandary."

Signs of a high spring stock-cattle market are easily detected, and the "wise guys" are taking time by the forelock, determined to evade a buying rush later. During recent violent swings in the fat-cattle market the stocker trade was relatively steady and showed a disposition to recover promptly. Much Corn Belt land is going back into grass, owing to increasing labor scarcity, which will accentuate demand for stockers.

NORTHWEST IS HARD HIT

ALMOST INCREDIBLE REPORTS are coming from the drought area of the Northwest. Following a dry summer came an abnormally bad October, November, and December, necessitating enormous feed consumption. Hay contracted in the Dakotas and Minnesota could not be moved to the stock, and it was equally impossible to move either cattle or sheep to hay. Some were able to secure cars to convey stock to market, resulting in heavy December receipts of both cattle and sheep, thousands of pregnant ewes going from Montana either to the shambles or to places of refuge.

Reports of mortality are coming in from all points of Montana and Wyoming. Owing to bare ranges, stock went into the winter thin, unable to stand vicissitude, and, as feed was scarce, some succumbed.

As the dry districts were largely depleted of live stock during the summer and fall, aggregate winter losses will be light, although the percentage may be large. The southward pilgrimage has been of enormous volume, long caravans of cattle and sheep seeking a refuge in Texas and New Mexico. Some may return; others will remain in the new location until they go to the shambles.

Prediction as to how northwestern herds and flocks will come through the winter is impossible at this juncture. Efforts have been made recently to secure cottonseed cake, but southern crushers are doing little, and, even if concentrates could be purchased, delivery is doubtful; in fact, several shipments made from southern points several weeks ago have been literally lost in transit.

Banks carrying cattle and sheep paper are seriously concerned over winter developments in the Northwest, as it will be up to them to finance feeding. If the Northwest were full of stock, something akin to what happened to the industry in 1886 would be possible.

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

SUBJOINED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-eight markets for the month of November, 1919, compared with November, 1918, and for the first eleven months of 1919, compared with the same period last year:

RECEIPTS

	November		First Eleven Months	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Cattle.....	2,707,606	2,653,772	22,494,364	23,217,649
Hogs.....	3,793,174	4,638,778	39,948,653	39,755,302
Sheep.....	2,845,963	2,605,519	24,802,956	20,862,889

SHIPMENTS*

	November		First Eleven Months	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Cattle.....	1,396,414	1,253,573	9,771,142	9,501,950
Hogs.....	1,319,170	1,244,506	12,703,406	12,895,964
Sheep.....	1,673,467	1,501,692	13,352,141	11,405,472

*Includes stockers and feeders.

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	November		First Eleven Months	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Cattle.....	1,318,583	1,427,740	12,504,472	13,578,721
Hogs.....	2,449,660	3,366,763	27,151,603	26,679,488
Sheep.....	1,211,281	1,135,797	11,437,788	9,363,655

STOCKERS AND FEEDERS

	November		First Eleven Months	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Cattle.....	723,865	622,122	4,810,726	4,639,771
Hogs.....	90,911	102,546	832,123	908,326
Sheep.....	859,501	763,145	6,215,004	4,847,058

WHOLESALE BEEF PRICES FALLING

THAT WHOLESALE PRICES on dressed beef, taking the country as a whole, fell 34.2 per cent—or more than one-third—between May 3 and November 22, 1919, is the assertion made by the Institute of American Meat Packers. On the other hand, the *Annalist* food index, based on the prices of twenty-five food commodities, shows a decrease of only 10 per cent between August 2 and November 22, during which period wholesale beef prices declined 18 per cent. Month by month the beef decreases are shown by the following figures, according to the former source:

	Decrease Per Cent
Week ending June 7	11.2
Week ending July 5	17.9
Week ending August 2	20.5
Week ending September 6	27.6
Week ending October 4	30.9
Week ending November 1	33.2
Week ending November 22	34.2

CAR SHORTAGE SERIOUS HANDICAP TO SHIPPERS

SO FAR as live-stock shippers are concerned, the car situation is going from bad to worse. Shortage of stock-cars is necessitating using box-cars to haul hogs, thousands reaching Chicago and Omaha that way. Railroads are far behind with car deliveries even in territory close to the big markets; in fact, the light November and December hog run was due largely to inability to get stuff on the rails. Thousands of north-western range cattle had to be turned loose because it was impossible to hold them at loading-points for cars, the probability being that many will not survive the winter. The Matador Cattle Company was unable to market several thousand head on this account.

Dissatisfaction over government railroad operation is constantly intensifying among live-stock growers and shippers, with little prospect of early improvement even if private ownership is restored.

STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY of holdings of frozen and cured meats on December 1, 1919, compared with November 1, 1919, and December 1, 1918, as announced by the Bureau of Markets:

Commodity	Dec. 1, 1919 (Pounds)	Nov. 1, 1919 (Pounds)	Dec. 1, 1918 (Pounds)
Frozen beef.....	222,918,346	184,196,382	229,710,639
Cured beef.....	35,456,729	37,594,680	32,583,167
Lamb and mutton....	9,388,521	7,894,287	9,046,250
Frozen pork.....	44,864,158	46,902,278	34,749,590
Dry salt pork.....	242,005,195	281,929,913	283,039,008
Pickled pork.....	226,734,532	239,719,279	243,380,055
Lard.....	48,798,459	66,036,217	81,670,549
Miscellaneous.....	82,986,249	82,113,274	106,254,200

OPENING AND CLOSING WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED FRESH MEATS

For Week Ending January 2, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

BOSTON

BEEF

STEERS:	
Choice	\$22.00-23.00
Good	20.00-22.00
Medium	18.00-19.00
Common	15.00-17.00

COWS:	
Good	14.50-15.50
Medium	13.00-13.50
Common	12.00-13.00

BULLS:	
Good	13.00-14.00
Medium	12.50-13.00
Common	12.00-12.50

LAMBS AND MUTTON

LAMBS:	
Choice	\$24.50-25.00
Good	24.00-24.50
Medium	22.00-23.00
Common	20.00-22.00

MUTTON:	
Good	12.00-13.00
Medium	11.00-12.00
Common	10.00-11.00

NEW YORK

STEERS:	
Good	\$19.00-21.00
Medium	17.00-19.00
Common	14.00-16.00

COWS:	
Good	16.00
Medium	14.00-15.00
Common	12.50-14.00

BULLS:	
Good	11.00-12.00
Medium	10.00-10.50
Common	10.00-10.50

LAMBS:	
Choice	\$27.00-28.00
Good	25.00-26.00
Medium	22.00-24.00
Common	20.00-21.00

MUTTON:	
Good	15.00-16.00
Medium	14.00-15.00
Common	10.00-12.00

LIVE-STOCK MARKET CONDITIONS

January 2, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

HOGS

	CHICAGO	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA
Top	\$14.65	\$14.65	\$14.30
Bulk of Sales.....	14.30-14.60	14.35-14.60	13.90-14.20
Heavy Wt., Med. to Ch....	14.35-14.60	14.25-14.65	14.00-14.25
Medium Wt., Med. to Ch....	14.40-14.65	14.25-14.65	14.10-14.30
Light Wt., Com. to Ch....	14.25-14.60	13.90-14.45	14.00-14.25
Light Lits, Com. to Ch....	14.00-14.35	13.75-14.00	13.75-14.10
Packing Sows, Smooth.....	13.75-14.25	13.60-14.00	13.90-14.00
Packing Sows, Rough.....	13.25-13.75	13.25-13.50	13.75-13.90
Pigs, Med. to Ch.....	13.25-14.25
Stock Pigs, Com. to Ch.....	12.75-13.50	11.00-12.50

CATTLE

BEEF STEERS:

Med. and Heavy Wt. (1,100 lbs. up)—

Choice and Prime.....	\$18.75-19.75	\$16.50-18.50	\$16.50-18.50
Good	14.00-18.75	13.35-16.50	13.75-16.25
Medium	10.75-14.00	11.15-13.35	11.50-13.75
Common	8.75-10.75	8.75-11.15	9.75-11.50

Light Weight (1,100 lbs. down)—

Choice and Prime.....	18.50-20.00	16.15-18.25	16.25-18.50
Medium and Good.....	10.75-18.50	10.65-16.15	12.25-16.00
Common	8.00-10.75	8.15-10.65	9.25-12.25

BUTCHER CATTLE:

Heifers, Common to Choice	6.50-14.75	6.75-13.75	7.00-13.25
Cows, Common to Choice..	6.35-13.50	6.65-11.75	6.75-13.00
Bulls, Bologna and Beef...	7.75-12.00	6.25-10.00	5.75-10.75

CANNERS AND CUTTERS:

Cows and Heifers.....	5.25- 6.35	5.25- 6.65	5.00- 6.75
Canner Steers	6.00- 7.75	6.00- 7.75

VEAL CALVES:

Lt. & Hdy. Wt., Med. to Ch.	15.75-17.00	13.00-15.00	13.00-14.50
Heavy Wt., Com. to Ch....	7.00-12.25	6.00-10.75	7.00-11.50

FEEDER STEERS:

Heavy Weight (1,000 lbs. up)—			
Common to Choice.....	8.75-12.25	8.65-13.00	9.00-13.25
Medium Weight (800 to 1,000 lbs.)—			
Common to Choice.....	7.25-11.75	8.00-12.25	7.75-12.50
Light Weight (800 lbs. down)—			
Common to Choice.....	7.00-11.00	7.75-11.40	7.50-11.50

STOCKER STEERS:

Common to Choice.....	6.00-10.25	6.00-10.50	7.00-11.25
-----------------------	------------	------------	------------

STOCKER COWS AND HEIFERS:

Common to Choice.....	6.25- 8.00	5.50- 8.40	5.50- 8.00
-----------------------	------------	------------	------------

STOCKER CALVES:

Good and Choice.....	9.50-10.50	8.25-11.00	9.00-11.00
Common and Medium.....	7.25- 9.25	6.00- 8.00	6.75- 9.00

SHEEP

LAMBS:

84 lbs. down, Med. to Prime	\$16.00-18.85	\$16.20-17.90	\$16.75-17.85
Culls and Common.....	12.00-15.50	10.00-16.10	12.00-16.25

YEARLING WETHERS:

Medium to Prime.....	12.00-16.25	12.85-15.35	13.50-15.75
----------------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

WETHERS:

Medium to Prime.....	10.25-11.75	11.25-12.25	11.00-11.75
----------------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

EWES:

Medium to Prime.....	8.50-10.75	7.75-10.60	9.00-10.25
Culls and Common.....	4.75- 8.25	4.00- 7.50	5.25- 9.00

BREEDING EWES:

Full Mouths to Yearlings..	8.00-12.50
----------------------------	-------	------------	-------

FEEDER LAMBS

11.75-15.00

13.50-16.00

REVIEW OF EASTERN MEAT-TRADE CONDITIONS

For Week Ending January 2, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

GENERAL MARKET CONDITIONS

There has been the usual holiday dulness in all classes and grades of dressed meats. Notwithstanding the firm to higher holding prices, the tendency has been downward, due to an unusually slow demand. The strike of luggers and cutters at New York, which started early in the week, continues, but has not seriously interfered with business.

BEEF

The week's trade in beef has been slow, with a tendency to lower prices on the better grades of steers, but practically steady on medium and common. The light demand absorbed the limited offerings of good cows, and today's prices are unchanged since Monday, except a decline of 50 cents on the common grade. A late week-end demand for bulls at Boston caused an advance of 50 cents, while other markets closed steady with one week ago. The kosher-beef market continued in the healthy condition of the past week, with price tendency upward.

VEAL

Good handy-weight calves have been scarce, and Monday's advances were well maintained, with the tendency upward throughout the week.

PORK

With Monday's opening prices slightly lower than the previous Friday's close, the tendency through the week has been downward. Loins are mostly \$1 lower at all eastern markets, with irregular declines on other cuts.

LAMB

Monday's advances at Philadelphia were not maintained, and declines during the week leave the level of prices in that market about in line with last Friday. Boston developed some strength toward the close, and today's prices are \$1 higher than Monday, while New York remains practically unchanged, with undertone weak.

MUTTON

While prices show but little change since one week ago, there has been a general tendency toward a lower level, with sharp declines at Philadelphia late in the week.

MARKET CLOSING

Boston closed with a number of cars on track not unloaded. Beef and pork closed practically steady; other meats dull and slow. New York closed with a number of cars on track and liberal supplies in the coolers. The market on all meats closed dull, with tendency toward lower prices. Philadelphia closed slow and dull, with a liberal carry-over of beef, lamb, and mutton. Veal and pork cleaned up fairly well.

DENVER SHEEP MARKET GROWING

[Denver Union Stock Yard Company]

DENVER, COLO., December 30, 1919.

THE DENVER SHEEP MARKET has shown a general advance in prices all through the month of December, the increase in fat lambs and fat ewes being about \$3 per cwt. for the month, while feeder lambs have held "steady to strong." Fat lambs have sold up to \$17.35; fat ewes, up to \$9.75; fat yearling wethers, up to \$14. Feeding lambs have sold for from \$13.50 to \$15, the bulk of the good feeders selling around \$14 to \$14.50.

The demand for all classes at this market has exceeded the supply. The outlet for feeding lambs has been exceptionally broad for this time of year. There have not been half enough feeders here during the months of January and February. The class of feeders that will be wanted is the kind carrying good weight and good shearing qualities, and we look for prices on this class to work higher.

The receipts of sheep at this market for the year 1919 passed the two-million mark, and Denver promises soon to be the biggest sheep market in the United States.

* * *

Varying factors influenced the market during the past month. Early in December the coal shortage and the possibility of the packing-houses being forced to restrict their operations resulted in some weakness on fat cattle. However, the feeder demand was unusually strong for so late in the season, and, despite the fact that receipts were larger than usual, trade was fairly active and stock well cleaned up from day to day.

Good fat beef steers found ready outlet to the packers at prices ranging from \$11 to \$12.50, with quotations up to \$13.50 on the choice grades. Fat cows and heifers are in strong demand, and are selling on this market from \$9 to \$9.75, with choice kinds quoted up to \$10.75. Fair cows are bringing from \$8 to \$9. Bulls are higher, moving at \$5.50 to \$7, the more desirable kinds selling readily at the latter price. Veal calves also are higher, with choice light-weight kinds bringing up to \$15.50, which is the highest price paid here for some months.

Feeder demand held up very well during the month, contrary to the usual custom. A great many feeders went to the country, and there was also a fair demand for stock cattle. Good feeders are selling on this market at \$9 to \$10.50, while choice, fleshy kinds are quoted up to \$11.50. Stock steers are bringing around \$8 to \$9.50 for the good kinds.

Hog supply was more liberal than for some time past. While there was some fluctuation during the month, prices at the close showed very little change from four weeks earlier. Trade opened with good hogs selling at from \$14.10 to \$14.75. Toward the middle of the month liberal receipts at eastern points caused some decline, but later the market showed improvement, and desirable hogs are now selling at Denver at from \$14.50 to \$14.85.

HIDE DECLINE CONTINUES

A SEVERE SLUMP IN HIDES was one of the causes assigned for the vicious break in cattle values at the middle of December. Hides declined from 8 to 10 cents a pound, and at that were on a nominal basis, as tanners were out of the market. Tanning-pits are full of high-priced hides, shoe stocks are large, and attempts by dealers to profiteer have prompted users of footwear to economize. Every cobbler in the country is working night shifts, and, as shoe stocks are not moving, makers are displaying caution in turning out new goods.

Packers talk lower prices for hides, tanners are more interested in taking inventories than in stocking up, and the market is marking time. What will happen in January is the subject of difference of opinion, but hide-market action will exert a strong influence on cattle prices.

From *Hide and Leather* we quote the following average prices on packer hides at the Chicago market for the week ending December 27, 1919, compared with the corresponding week in 1918:

	Price per Pound (Cents)	
	1919	1918
Spready steers	40-41	30
Heavy native steers.....	38	29
Heavy Texas steers.....	33	27
Light Texas steers.....	32	26
Colorados	32	26
Branded cows	31	22
Heavy native cows	38	27
Light native cows	36	23
Native bulls	31-32	20½
Branded bulls	26-29	18½
Calfskins (country)	50-75	30-40

Denver Country-Hide Market

[Quotations Furnished by J. L. Brown]

Every phase of the hide market experienced declines during the last few months of the past year. The high-water mark has now been left far in the distance, as light hides have decreased from the top by about one-half, horse hides the same, and calfskins about 40 per cent. Heavy hides did not drop so much, as they did not go so high as other selections; but even this class of hides has declined about one-third from the top prices of a few months ago.

There are no definite predictions for the future, because economic, financial, and labor conditions are so unsatisfactory at the present time that leather manufacturers do not look forward to very bright prospects for marketing the finished product. The only certain feature is that the hide market is now weak, and steadily declining on no small scale.

	Cents per Pound
Green-salted cured hides, No. 1.....	20
Green-salted branded hides, No. 1.....	18
Green-salted calfskins	40-50
Green-salted kipskins	20-30
Dry full-wool pelts.....	38
Flint dry hides.....	35-40
	Each
Green-salted horse hides.....	\$7.00-9.00
Green sheep pelts.....	1.00-3.00

FEEDSTUFFS

PRICES ON COTTONSEED CAKE AND MEAL were practically stationary during December. There was a slight advance, and then a recession. On January 1 the prevailing quotations, f. o. b. cars at mill, Texas common points, were: nut size, \$72.50; meal, \$73; pea size, \$73.50 per ton, in 100-pound sacks, based on 43 per cent protein. Oklahoma mills are quoting cake and meal at \$76. Local demand is practically absorbing the Oklahoma product. There is great difficulty in securing cars for cottonseed shipments.

Prices for hay have declined slightly in the big consumptive markets, such as Kansas City and Chicago. Receipts are liberal. Prices at Chicago: choice timothy, \$31 to \$32; lower grades, down to \$24; prairie hay, \$20 to \$28. Prices at Kansas City: timothy, \$23 to \$25; prairie hay, \$15 to \$23; alfalfa, \$25 to \$36, varying according to grade.

Corn prices, both for future and cash, fluctuated rapidly during December, closing the month with futures about the same as at the end of November, and cash somewhat lower. The shortage of cars has prevented a large movement of grain to terminal markets.

CHICAGO CASH PRICES

Corn, bu.	\$1.30-1.45
Oats, bu.83-.86
Barley, bu.	1.45-1.55

CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE QUOTATIONS ON FUTURES

Article	Close Jan. 3
Corn—	
May	\$ 1.32
July	1.30
Oats—	
May83
July77
Rye—	
January	1.77
May	1.83
Barley—	
May	1.52
M. Pork—	
May	37.40
Lard—	
January	23.50
May	24.58
Sides—	
January	19.15
May	19.93

It cost the miners \$60,000,000 and the operators \$12,000,000. And what bright little lad can tell us who is going to pay?
—New York Tribune.

TRADE REVIEW

PALMER-PACKER AGREEMENT SOP TO PRODUCERS

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., December 31, 1919.

REMEMBER when Bill Taft "busted the beef trust"—"busted" it wide open by the simple process of dissolving the National Packing Company? "The octopus is destroyed," chorused the metropolitan editors. The packers were suspiciously complaisant. Armour, Swift, and Morris each grabbed their share of the wreckage, and the community settled down to enjoy an era of good feeling, so far as the packers were concerned. But as for improving trade conditions, creating competition, or otherwise remedying evils that prompted application of this empirical remedy, the Taftian stroke was a joke. It merely concentrated the purchasing function at the live-stock market by eliminating buyers for the Hammond, Anglo-American, United Dressed Beef, and other concerns forming units of the aforesaid National Packing Company. Realization of the farce was speedy: such litigation as was pending between the federal government and the packers was nolle-prossed, and almost as soon as the act was consummated anti-packer agitation was resumed.

And now comes Attorney-General Palmer, avowed presidential candidate, with another dose of the same variety of "bunk." Again the "beef trust is busted;" again federal litigation directed at the packers is quashed. "We protest, but bow to the inevitable," chorus the interested packers. "Competition will now be restored at the stock-yards," the versatile Attorney-General is credited with asserting. "Prepare for cheaper meat," croon the metropolitan sheets. Twice "busted," the much-punished trust winks both eyes in succession. Barnum asserted that one was born every minute, but in the showman's day they were mere amateurs at putting such things over.

Other than as a victory for the wholesale grocers, the Palmer announcement cannot be taken seriously. Placation of that interest was one object sought in the Palmer-packer agreement, as it is powerful, well organized, and in a position to do things at Washington. It resented packer intrusion with such energy as to convince the chiefs of Packingtown that a fight would result disadvantageously to them. What appears to be a voluntary abandonment of stock-yards and market papers will bear dissection. Divorcement, it will be noticed, is to be deferred for two years, and many things may happen during that period. Nothing is said in the agreement about restraining individuals from owning stock-yard stock, or controlling such properties, even though they may be interested in packing concerns. Disposal of market papers would be a simple matter, at the same time maintaining control of editorial opinion and news-mongering. Packingtown cherishes the idea that ostensible divorcement of stock-yards from acknowledged packer control will appease hostile sentiment among producers, and to that extent it is a sop to the breeder, grazer, and feeder.

But the chief motive of this compromise is to maintain the secrecy at present surrounding packers' financial operations. The last thing packers intend to prevent is permitting Uncle Sam to take a "peek" at their books. This supervision, which they term "control," they will resist to the last ditch. Realization that public sentiment is hostile to them is acknowledged

by this Palmer agreement; otherwise they would not have made it. Packingtown compromises only when confronted with necessity.

The packer-owned papers are suggestively silent on the agreement. Evidently Chicago has not yet issued instructions to these editorial vassals. The semi-independent newspapers have commented cautiously—feeling their way, as it were. A brighter day would dawn for market journalism if it were able to assume an attitude of independence, which, however, is impossible when the existence of the publication and the job of the editor depend on subsidies, either direct or in the shape of advertising, which, from the packer viewpoint, is superfluous.

Financing divorcement of the stock-yards from packer control is a gigantic problem, especially on a money market full of undigested, if not indigestible, securities. That their properties have been stocked and bonded until much of the stock issues merely represents good-will, unearned increment, or whatever designation may be attempted, will not be disputed. Obviously private capital adequate to taking them over on a basis that would give present owners what they consider value will not be available. A possible solution of the problem would be the creation of a state-municipal system of ownership and operation. For example, in the case of Omaha, that city and the State of Nebraska could own the yards jointly, paying the purchase price with state and municipal bonds, tax-free, issued at 4½ per cent. Being state and municipal properties, they would be tax-exempt, permitting reduction of charges. Necessity for eliminating political control would be obvious, as the practical politicians would defeat the object aimed at. This could in a measure be prevented by placing operation in the hands of commissions. Nothing will be gained by divorcing stock-yards from packer control, unless efficient management is insured. Shippers demand service, which they have not been getting at many points. As at present managed, the stock-yards are required to produce maximum dividend results with minimum of operating charges, which is incompatible with efficient service. The problem is how to secure 100 per cent service at reasonable cost.

The Palmer agreement forever prohibits packers from retailing meats. This clause was evidently inserted by the packers, who have detected a growing demand for reduction of the rapidly increasing cost of distribution, which is the cause of much of the discontent existing among consumers. Nothing is said, however, of individuals operating retail markets, though they may be prominent factors in the packing industry. Any one of the Swifts, for instance, in the guise of a corporation, could operate a chain of markets. As a matter of fact, individuals whose positions in packing circles are prominent are today heavily interested in meat-vending enterprises. That they intend to relinquish these lucrative investments is improbable. In fact, forcing them to do so is neither within the scope of the Palmer agreement nor contemplated by the parties thereto.

BUSINESS FAILURES IN NOVEMBER

REVERSING THE DECLINING TENDENCY of most preceding months last year, commercial failures in the United States during November numbered 551 and supplied \$9,177,321 of liabilities, according to *Dun's Review*. Compared with the 463 defaults of October, involving \$6,871,966, the November returns disclose a numerical increase of 19 per cent and an expansion of 33.5 per cent in the indebtedness. Yet not in any previous November since monthly statistics were first compiled have failures been so few in number as in the present instance, the next best exhibit for the period being the 570 defaults of November, 1918.

OUR FOREIGN TRADE IN LIVE STOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS

TABULATED BELOW are the total numbers of live stock exported from and imported into the United States during the month of October, and the ten months ending October, 1919 and 1918, together with the imports of meat products for the same periods. For our exports of meat see December PRODUCER, page 36:

LIVE STOCK

EXPORTS (Numbers)

Animals	October		Ten Months Ending October	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Cattle.....	9,486	418	62,798	9,074
Hogs.....	1,893	838	18,113	9,141
Horses.....	2,795	4,019	16,750	47,729
Mules.....	673	2,568	4,930	15,309
Sheep.....	5,075	889	27,671	7,487

IMPORTS (Numbers)

Animals	October		Ten Months Ending October	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Cattle.....	103,624	49,439	441,154	259,396
From United Kingdom.....			806	404
From Canada.....	95,759	47,403	366,652	167,930
From Mexico.....	7,865	1,969	72,894	88,813
From other countries.....		67	802	2,249
Hogs.....	408	1,879	20,360	4,573
Horses.....	440	121	3,997	3,477
Sheep.....	77,705	32,105	169,479	91,748

MEAT PRODUCTS

IMPORTS (Pounds)

Articles	October		Ten Months Ending October	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Fresh—				
Beef and veal.....	3,158,175	2,487,485	31,519,002	14,470,673
Mutton and lamb.....	1,044,719	63,026	7,154,238	190,832
Pork.....	209,961	732,263	2,461,471	1,278,804
Total fresh meats.....	4,412,855	3,282,774	41,134,711	15,940,309
Prepared or preserved—				
Bacon and hams.....	106,950	437,107	2,553,459	775,088
Bologna sausage.....	17,005	631	53,487	5,097
Sausage casings.....	1,070,887	624,255	9,477,670	
Tallow.....	874,624	59,519	7,775,876	*4,662,587
All other meat products.....	776,390	315,719	7,353,891	

* Beginning July 1.

COMPETITION AS A PRICE STIMULANT

A LITTLE COMPETITION is a wondrous thing, at the live-stock market or in any other sphere of commercial activity. Along in December, when packers had the Chicago hog market to themselves, they put up droves at \$12.40 to \$12.75 per cwt., and protested that the cutting process showed a loss on that basis. Two weeks later, when eastern hogs ran out, forcing sellers down that way to file orders at Chicago, prices jumped \$1.50 per cwt., although Armour, Swift, *et al.*, kept out.

Similarly in the sheep-house, when demand was solely from packing sources in November, fat lambs were on a peddling basis at \$14 to \$14.25. When the eastern crop of natives disappeared, and butchers wired orders for a few thousand

daily to Chicago, the market jumped to \$18 and \$18.50 within three weeks.

The moral is obvious: Encourage or permit concentration of the buying power, and competition disappears.

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCTS IN NOVEMBER

BELOW ARE SHOWN the exports of meat products from the United States in November, 1919, compared with November, 1918, and for the eleven months ending November, 1919, compared with the same period last year:

BEEF PRODUCTS (Pounds)

Classification	November		Eleven Months Ending November	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Beef, canned.....	1,393,238	13,313,420	52,042,348	133,670,924
Beef, fresh.....	15,694,002	*62,835,161	168,452,697	480,179,681
Beef, pickled, etc.....	2,997,652	4,291,030	39,541,521	40,421,173
Oleo oil.....	7,096,636	3,352,792	69,539,375	65,359,687
Totals.....	27,181,528	83,792,403	329,575,941	719,631,465

PORK PRODUCTS (Pounds)

Classification	November		Eleven Months Ending November	
	1919	1918	1919	1918
Bacon.....	65,288,694	72,861,969	1,131,285,185	978,350,696
Hams and shoulders.....	16,844,285	20,127,671	581,111,366	498,273,473
Lard.....	42,106,339	27,285,088	697,255,889	511,093,503
Neutral lard.....	771,353	51,853	22,663,821	6,292,905
Pork, pickled.....	4,934,696	2,783,273	30,018,480	34,645,882
Lard compounds.....	2,673,237	6,433,191	122,353,978	34,715,174
Totals.....	132,618,604	129,543,045	2,584,688,719	2,063,371,633

RISE IN COST OF LIVING SINCE 1914

CONTROVERSY in the press relative to the exact extent of the rise in the cost of living in this and other countries since 1914 led to an appeal to the Bureau of Labor Statistics at Washington, which in the *Monthly Labor Review* for October reports the results of its investigations—as authoritative, probably, as can be had. Briefly, these are as follows:

	Per Cent Increase	To Date
New Zealand	43	June, 1919
Australia	49	June, 1919
United States	80	June, 1919
Canada	85	June, 1919
Holland	88	June, 1917
England	104	June, 1919
Norway	176	April, 1919
Italy	181	April, 1919
*France	193	April, 1919
Austria	215	Jan., 1918
Sweden	219	June, 1919

*Outside of Paris, where the increase was 164 per cent.

MEAT EXPORTS TO GERMANY

IT IS ESTIMATED that 300,000,000 pounds of meats and lard were received by Germany from this country during the last three months of 1919.

There is nothing humanitarian about feeding Germany if she has to pay the prices the rest of us pay.—*Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont.*

FOREIGN

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

LONDON, November 17, 1919.

THERE ARE ALL THE SIGNS of the number of cattle fed for winter markets this year being very small on account of the shortage of keep. Hay is only half an average crop, and straw is also very poor. Turnips are short, and the artificial feeds are sky-high in price.

This is reflected already in heavy marketings off the grass of late—a spasmodic feature revealing poor condition in the later arrivals. Similarly the demand for store cattle needing long feeding has dwindled, prices for this class of stock being only a trifle higher than pre-war figures. Light-weight and poorly finished home grazers have been sold lately at from \$13.65 to \$14.70 per cwt., with yearlings considerably cheaper.

Ireland has sent across to England considerably more fat cattle this year. The increase has been nearly 30 per cent over 1918, the total to date this year exceeding 400,000 head. Stores have numbered rather more than a third of this.

Scottish feeders are this winter in the same difficult position for want of keep as the trade is in England. Several of the northern pastoral associations, as well as branches of the National Farmers' Union in England, have passed resolutions calling for the release of the fat-stock business from government control, the growing import of overseas meat providing them with an extra argument for this.

At all the fat-stock markets throughout Great Britain free offerings of beasts have been the rule during the last month, but the quality of the cattle has been, to a large extent, very poor, and there has been much rejection by the graders in many parts. In the first forty-four weeks of this year the total number of fat cattle on offer in England and Wales amounted to 423,802 head, as compared with an average of 467,471 head in the corresponding period of the three preceding years. Skins have now advanced up to \$4.20 each. Calves are a rising market, the demand for slaughter being great, and week-old calves making anything from \$10.50 to \$14.70 per head. The current wholesale rates for fat cattle (actual live weight to the producer) range between \$16.30 to \$15.15 per cwt., according to grade. Fat sheep, which are short on the home markets, stand at 28½ cents per pound, estimated dressed carcass weight, for all grades. The wholesale price of imported meat was last week reduced 4½ cents per pound. Home-killed beef is wholesaled at \$29.04 per cwt., and frozen hinds at \$26.46. Home-killed mutton sells wholesale at \$30.87 per cwt., and frozen at \$28.08.

By the way, as regards the sale of imported meat in Great Britain, the Ministry of Food last week issued an order compelling retailers to affix a label "Imported" to all such meat exposed for sale (boneless meat and offals excepted). This "meat-marking" proposition is a matter which has been debated in an academic way for years, and, now that it has suddenly been enforced, it is surprising to see how excited and angry the home-meat retailing trade has quickly grown about it. In fact, their excited protestations in the first few days have secured a temporary repeal of the order. The real feeling at the back of the minds of the protestants is that the labeling order gives too great an advertisement to overseas meat, which

fact should be duly noted by overseas producers. Frozen meat has been retailed at 6 cents per pound cheaper than home-killed of late, and now the Food Controller is making it 4 cents per pound cheaper still, to relieve present congestion of meat in our ports and stores.

Sheep have been short in our markets of late, the total recorded in all English markets last month being only seven-eighths of the total of the three years' average. The country's sheep census, of course, not long since revealed a serious decrease, and farmers, with the difficult conditions in front of them, do not seem at all inclined to improve the national holdings. Throughout Europe, it is stated, sheep stocks are fifty million in arrears.

Lord Lee, the president of the English Board of Agriculture, a few days ago stated that the government was determined to extend the area of arable land and would stop at nothing to assist to that end. It was also important that grass lands should be improved. The system of guaranteed minimum prices for wheat and oats must continue on a scale which took into consideration the great increase in the cost of production since the Corn Production Act was passed. He thought that the guarantee should be permanent, or, at least, subject to four years' notice.

Meat-producers abroad may well be surprised at the seemingly inconsistent methods and zig-zag course which the government has been pursuing this year in influencing the public consumption of meat. All the year the official plan has seemed to be to maintain at all costs the cry of "world's meat shortage," at the same time affording the home meat-raiser every species of protection possible. Right on the threshold of the dearest winter of modern times, the British government performs a *volte-face* by reducing frozen meat 4 cents per pound meanwhile, to encourage the public once more to regain their appetites and, by eating more, help the government out of the mess of congestion into which its shipping policy of earlier in the year flung it. The colossal stocks of Australasian meat have been lifted from their country of origin months too late, and now they are arriving the public cold stores throughout the country are chock-full, and hundreds of tons of meat may be wasted.

But, in spite of this turn of policy, the Ministry of Food feels that it must keep up its cry of meat shortage in order to maintain its plea for continued meat control. To do this, the Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Food, Mr. McCurdy, seeks to frighten the public with news of a three-million-ton demand for meat coming from Europe—which is absurd, both from financial and other reasons. The British Incorporated Society of Meat Importers has taken up the cudgels against this governmental statistical travesty, and carries the war into the enemy's camp by declaring that the government has been profiteering in meat; that, if control were taken off at once, imported meat would immediately fall 6 cents per pound, and that the price of home-killed meat would quickly follow. It is further maintained that control is used as an instrument of protection for the English stock-raiser, against the interest of the consumer. A very great public campaign is now gathering against the government food-control policy, both in meat and poultry, and it is a question whether the government will care to withstand for long this breeze, which is quickly becoming a gale.

December 15, 1919.

Controversy as to the urgency and safety of a speedy release from the government control of meat has been so wide and fierce during the past month that the finer issues of discussion as to current progress in home stock matters have been almost entirely neglected.

The existing glut of meat in our markets, caused by the recent heavy arrivals from Australasia, has put in the background any consideration of the progress being made by herds and flocks on this side at the beginning of the winter season. As a matter of fact, the early snap of severe cold last month, together with the bare condition of pastures, resulted in live stock faring pretty poorly, and farmers have been obliged to dip earlier than usual into the scanty supply of winter foods. Winter keep is very scarce, although hay and straw are of good quality.

The present fixed price for first-grade cattle is now \$20 per cwt., and it has to be remarked that, although the increase in price has brought forward larger supplies, a considerable proportion of the marketings are rough. Small showings of supergraded Shorthorns have been priced at 18 cents higher per cwt.

This year the home lamb season has been a very long one, and London has been better supplied with sheep, in comparison with other markets, this year than formerly. Mutton is now priced wholesale at 29 cents a pound, dead weight; sheepskins frequently realize \$5 each, so that a seventy-pound sheep now fetches \$25, and size, not quality, counts. In the first eleven months of this year fat-sheep marketings have been only 1,507,856 head, as against an average of 2,289,913 for this period; this showing a greater fall than even the sheep census returns reveal.

With regard to the present negligence of quality, owing to the conditions of the trade under government control, the cessation of control, which is anticipated very shortly, will speedily change all this. The Imported-Meat Labeling Order is already in force, and this, although it has met with opposition from retailers, will apparently be rigorously maintained. It is a new condition altogether in the meat-vending business, and, while it will prevent or minimize substitution, it should give a full premium to the best-quality stuff once free trading recommences.

The fat-stock shows, which, before the war, were a perennial feature a month or so before Christmas, have, in several leading instances, been revived, and they have been peculiarly symptomatic of the restricted conditions of the home raising industry as it at present is. Both the Norwich fat-stock show and the Smithfield Club's cattle show in London have revealed, by the fewness of their cattle exhibits, the paucity of prime-conditioned stock engendered by the existing government regime. It was the ruling conditions which were probably responsible for the fact that at the London cattle show the supreme championship of the exhibition was won by a cross-bred heifer under two years old, the laurels in ordinary times almost invariably falling to an older animal. By special permission of the government, prices above the food maxima have been allowed to be bid at these fat-stock shows, and the rates have been high in spite of the buyers being able to receive control rates only in the ultimate retail sale. In view of this, \$1,375 for a steer, realized at the Islington show, seems a sacrifice.

Supplies of meat at Smithfield market, London, during November totaled 25,815 tons, as against 20,042 tons a year ago—a rise of nearly 30 per cent. Beef and mutton accounted for this increase. Of the beef on the market 41.7 per cent was home-killed, and 42.9 per cent of the mutton. The cold stores of the country are stated to be crammed full at the present moment, there being at least 100,000 tons of frozen meat in store, with another 100,000 tons to arrive from Australia and New Zealand (principally the latter) in the present month and in January.

It is not to be wondered at, with the present reduced purchasing power of money and the attendant high prices of meat, that the principal markets are not being well cleared,

and every authority is urging decontrol, and that to take place speedily, as the only remedy. The Ministry of Food seems loath to take this step, however, and its protagonists in Parliament have evidently been urged to preach "a world's shortage of meat" as a possible delaying influence. However, this theory has been discredited in the press by the British Incorporated Society of Meat Importers, and the table of figures of the animal census of the leading stock countries in the world, showing the comparison as between prior to the war and just recently, which has appeared in THE PRODUCER and been reproduced in the British press, has attracted a good deal of attention, acting as a silent witness against the campaign of those "experts" so anxious at this time to preach "shortage."

It would appear that the British government had finally arrived at the decision to decontrol meat very shortly, as that early step was declared by the Food Controller himself, only a few days since, to be very likely before the year, and this week the public has been allowed to purchase unlimited quantities of meat of any retailer, instead of at their registered shop, which seems a first step to decontrol.

The connection between the maintenance of dairy herds on a basis of profitable milk production and the progress of general cattle herds in the country is so intimate as to render of peculiar interest at this time an authoritative statement of current farmer's costs as they relate to dairy cattle keep. I, therefore, give the following figures, which are the estimates of costs as submitted by the Director of Milk Supplies to the Milk Prices Investigation Committee. In view of the great change in the rate of exchange between American and English money, I leave, in this instance, the costs in their original coin:

A daily maintenance ration per cow is worked out by Mr. Buckley as follows: 12 pounds of hay, 9d.; 8 pounds of straw, 2.16d.; 56 pounds of roots, 8.10d.—a total of 19.26d. The foods, being in the majority of cases home-grown, are calculated at the cost of production and not at market value. In addition, a production ration of cake, or its equivalent, is put down as averaging 6.97d. per gallon. Depreciation is at the rate of £5 per annum per cow, or 3.33d. daily. The cost of rent and rates, repairs, depreciation on machinery, and delivery is regarded as offset by the value of calves born.

On the above data, the cost, in pence, of production in respect to cows in milk is taken to vary in proportion to daily yield as follows: 2 gallons—cost per cow daily, 45.16; cost per gallon, 22.58; 1½ gallons—43.42 and 24.81; 1½ gallons—41.67 and 27.78; 1¼ gallons—39.93 and 31.94; 1 gallon—38.19 and 38.19.

Mr. Buckley expresses the opinion that the average cow in milk from December 1 to April 30 will yield approximately 1½ gallons daily, and that there will be in the average herd one cow dry to two cows in milk. He therefore estimates the average cost per gallon produced to be 34.20d. The average price allowed to the producer for these five months is 2s. 11 4-5d., yielding 13-5d. per gallon profit.

BRITAIN'S BACON SUPPLY ASSURED

ANNOUNCEMENT has been made by the English Food Controller that the British mission in New York has made arrangements by which England is assured of securing a regular supply of bacon of good quality, at prices based on the actual cost of hogs.

"The Americans are anxious to abolish the breakfast habit in the United States," says a gossip writer. Another consignment of their bacon and they should accomplish the same trick in this country.—*London Punch*.

CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK NOTES

BY H. S. ARKELL

Dominion Live-Stock Commissioner

THE ACTION of the United States Grain Corporation in raising the embargo against the import of Canadian wheat into the United States, effective on December 15, 1919, will probably result in the Wheat Board selling considerable Canadian grain in United States markets. This grain would move from western Canada direct to Minneapolis, and would not be cleaned in any Canadian plant.

The average price of select hogs during the month of January, 1919, was \$17.53 at Toronto, \$18.07 at Montreal, and \$16.30 at Winnipeg. These prices represent the lowest point of the price curve up to the end of October. By November 31 the low point of the year was reached, selects selling at values approximately \$1 under the January average. A similar condition of the markets prevailed in 1918, in 1917, in 1916, and farther back. Analysis reveals the fact that the recovery has almost invariably started during the ebb of the old year, accumulating increases amounting to approximately \$1 per month until the apex of the curve is reached toward midyear. The average price of select hogs at Toronto during the year ending December 31, 1918, was \$19.21. The average price at the same yards for the year ending December 31, 1919, will be about \$19.60, or approximately 40 cents per hundred higher in 1919 than in 1918.

During the eleven months ending November 30, 1919, Canada exported live stock valued at \$47,223,613. Exports of cattle were valued at \$43,103,311, exports of calves at \$1,542,634, exports of sheep at \$1,859,686, and exports of hogs at \$717,982. The revenue from this source during the eleven months was \$23,193,757 in excess of the revenue from the same source during the entire calendar year 1918.

The following quotation is from a letter received from the Minister of Commerce, Labor, and Reconstruction of Belgium:

"There is at present an important trade in live stock between Canada and Belgium. It will be possible to maintain this trade, but, as you will understand, in smaller volume than at present, as agriculture in Belgium will be able to fill the needs of the country more and more as reconstruction of the live-stock industry progresses toward the state existing before the war. However, even when completely reconstructed, Belgian live stock will always be insufficient to satisfy the needs of the country. Before the war we were importing fat stock from Holland, and also a small quantity from France, and it is probable that a portion, if not the whole, of the import requirements will be received from Canada, now that a commercial current has been created."

No argument for the elimination of the scrub bull is more forceful than that presented through a comparison of the number of good-quality cattle with the number of poor-quality cattle sold at public stock-yards in Canada from January 1 to December 18, 1919. These figures show that 43 per cent of the total cattle marketed during the period mentioned were of common grading. Even allowing for the fact that a percentage of the stock graded common through lack of fat and finish, the greatest contributing factor to the low grading was the scrub bull. The annual monetary loss to the industry in general, and to the feeders of market cattle in particular, through lack of quality, can be stopped for all time by eliminating the scrub bull, pure-bred or grade.

TASMANIA TO ENTER FROZEN MEAT TRADE

TASMANIA IS REPORTED to be entering the frozen-meat export trade, says the *London Meat Trades' Journal*. Basing the estimate on present flocks, it is thought that the island should be able to ship about 100,000 carcasses of lamb and mutton a year. Beef and pork will also be consigned.

BRITISH BAN ON STORE CATTLE IMPORTATIONS TO REMAIN IN FORCE

IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT, on November 12, during a debate on the advisability of removing the embargo on importations of Canadian store cattle, the president of the Board of Agriculture dwelt on the prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease in many parts of the world. In France, he said, as reported in the *London Meat Trades' Journal*, the latest figures showed that forty-six departments were affected; in Belgium there were nine affected provinces, and in Holland eleven. Practically all the countries of South America were infected at the present time. Argentina and Paraguay reported the disease from their whole territories, and in Brazil few districts were free from it. The outbreak in England was serious and quite inexplicable. The cases were widely separated, and, in spite of the fullest investigation, no clue had been discovered as to how the disease had been brought in.

If the government had no present intention of permitting the import of Canadian store cattle, the president declared, it was not because of any suspicion as to the existence of disease in Canada. He doubted whether any country had a cleaner record. But in the present world condition, which was bound to continue for many years, the only hope for the United Kingdom lay in isolation. Moreover, the advantage of importing store cattle had now wholly disappeared. Today there was no shortage of meat; on the contrary, there was an almost embarrassing glut. As a result of war rationing, the British people had learned to eat less meat. The demand on butchers was only 75 per cent of the normal. The result was that farmers were unable to dispose of their fat cattle and sheep. Furthermore, owing to the shortage of feedstuffs, if large numbers of cattle were imported, the country would be unable to feed them.

BRITAIN RESTRICTS IMPORTS OF IRISH CATTLE

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT has issued an order restricting the export of fat cattle from Ireland to the British markets to 6,960 animals a week. Last year the average exported from Ireland was 12,300, and in the last two months of the year the average rose to 14,000 a week. The restrictive order is stated to have been issued pursuant to urgent representations made to the Food Controller by stock-owners in England. There is no restriction on the import into England of foreign meat. As 95 per cent of Irish cattle go to the British markets, Irish farmers complain of the restriction now made on their product.

JAPAN TO IMPORT SHEEP

DR. ISSA TANNEMURA, of Tokyo, is in the United States on his second visit investigating the possibilities of introducing American sheep into Japan. There are only a few thousand head of sheep in the empire—remnants of previous attempts to establish breeding herds. Dr. Tannemura is hopeful of eventually discovering breeds which can be successfully acclimated. With plenty of fine pasture land, and a climate in most sections which presents extremes of neither heat nor cold, there seems to be no good reason why Japan should not, in time, become a heavy producer of wool and mutton. Before returning to his native land, Dr. Tannemura will visit several European countries on the same errand.

There is a rumor in well-informed circles that Great Britain will be forced to accept a mandate for the governing of Ireland. —*Chicago Tribune*.

ARGENTINE LIVE-STOCK NOTES

BY ANDREW EWART

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, November 20, 1919.

SINCE MY LAST LETTER further sales of imported pedigree live stock have been held. Trade was good at the opening sales, but later a diminished demand was noted, and many lots were difficult to sell to advantage. At a recent sale of imported Herefords held at Montevideo, Uruguay, a record price for that country was scored in the sale of an imported bull at \$31,000 (gold).

Sales of imported bulls held recently in Buenos Aires attracted the usual interest, though in the majority of cases only a fair selling trade was witnessed. Many animals were sold at a considerable loss to their importers. The general prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease has been very detrimental to the interests of importers, whose valuable animals were in many cases twice attacked. A number of North-American-bred Shorthorns, the majority of which had been prize winners in the United States, were placed on this market. There was little interest taken in their acquisition by Argentine breeders, and few animals were sold at the first auction. At the second sale Lucky Thought, bred by the Allen Cattle Company and winner of second prize at Chicago, made \$8,500 (Argentine paper), which was the highest price reached at the sale. Dale Gauntlet, bred by W. E. Pritchard, of Iowa, junior champion of the Kansas National Live Stock Show and winner of other prize cards, made \$5,500 (paper). Villagers Commodore, also bred in Iowa, sold for \$4,800.

Trade had become very much slower by the time these animals were placed on the market, which, combined with their unpopular colors and want of coat, was not in their favor. Buyers here are most particular about the color and will pay high prices only for dark reds or dark roans, light roans being barred; though in my opinion no practical reason exists for the extreme views regarding color held by many of our leading breeders. These bulls were quite a good breed type and level-fleshed, and it was a pity they did not meet a better sale.

This season's trade in imported pedigree live stock has been disappointing to those who were unable to take advantage of the earlier sales, considering the very high cost in Great Britain of all the better class of pedigree animals offering.

A considerable drop has lately been experienced in this country in the values of commercial cattle—from 8 to 10 cents (Argentine paper). This is a big slump from the former high values. Forty cents a pound, dead weight, was the ruling rate about a month ago, while today values are from 30 to 32 cents a pound. It is difficult to assign any reason for this drop, though the diversion of meat-carrying boats to Australia and New Zealand has caused a shortage in shipping space. At this season large numbers of fat cattle are being offered, and many feeders who bought in at the former high rate will be poorly paid for their feeding.

Pastoral conditions in the northern parts of this country are excellent, while camps to the south are also good, though grass is somewhat late owing to the colder spring. The general prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease has caused very serious losses to owners of live stock, as the disease was in a much more virulent form than previously experienced here. Considerable numbers of young calves were lost, and in many cases large numbers of grown cattle, if these were thin and feed scarce during the period of the disease. The epidemic is likely to make its reappearance all over the country next winter. Winter seems to be the favorite period for its spreading.

SOUTH AFRICA AS A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF MEAT SUPPLY

WHILE THE NUMBER OF CATTLE in the Union of South Africa is placed at 9,000,000, the meat industry is still in its infancy, although during the past two years it has received an impetus from the demands occasioned by war conditions, writes Vice-Consul J. Pisar from Cape Town. In the year 1917, 47,252,995 pounds of fresh and frozen beef were exported, the bulk of which went to Egypt, and practically all of the remainder to England and France. During the year under review the exports dropped to 18,656,058 pounds, most of which went to the United Kingdom and France.

The future of the industry depends largely on the erection of chilling works, and on more attention being paid to the breeding of suitable stock for export purposes. Cattle diseases have had a deterrent effect on the industry. East-coast fever is still a source of anxiety, owing to periodical outbreaks, although it has been robbed of much of its terror since systematic dipping was instituted some years ago. Anthrax is increasing, and is causing more deaths than any other disease except east-coast fever. Tuberculosis has also wrought much havoc among cattle.

Although the number of sheep in the Union of South Africa is placed at 32,000,000, no frozen mutton industry for export purposes has as yet been developed. Sheep are raised chiefly for their wool, which forms one of the principal items in the exports of South Africa. In the year 1917 the exports of scoured wool amounted to 11,935,868 pounds. In 1918 they increased to 15,242,881 pounds, the bulk of which went to the United States.

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT COMMANDEERS MEAT

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEENSLAND, which is in control of the Labor party, has issued proclamations commandeering all meat in that state or which may be produced within the state in the next five years, a correspondent at Brisbane, Australia, writes to the *National Provisioner*. All existing contracts are annulled, and the state will set its own price to stock-raisers and packers.

This action is taken "to insure fair supplies of meat for the people of Queensland at reasonable prices," and to forestall the possibility of a local meat shortage, due to the exportation of meat supplies after the existing war contracts have expired.

CAUSES OF HIGH OCEAN FREIGHTS

BUSINESS MEN engaged in international trade are continually asking two questions: "When will ocean freights be lower?" and, "Why are freights higher now than before the war?" One of the reasons, says the *London Daily Telegraph* for October 27, 1919, is that a ton of shipping today performs only about half the service it did five years ago—a state of affairs largely attributable to the congestion at the different ports of Great Britain. Among other reasons assigned for high freights in the United Kingdom are:

1. Relative shortage of tonnage because of the failure to make good losses sustained during the war, and the large number of vessels still being "conditioned" after the stress and strain of war service.
2. Post-war government needs in the matter of transport, and labor delays generally.
3. Greatly increased cost of ships, and higher insurance values as a result.
4. High cost of repairs and maintenance.
5. Increased wages for officers and seamen, and heavier bills for their food and ships' stores.
6. Higher dock dues.
7. Higher prices for bunker coal.

ROUND THE RANGE

STOCK FROM DROUGHT TERRITORY STILL MOVING SOUTH

The movement of live stock from the drought areas to southern pastures still continues. During the early part of December movement of this sort seems to have been heavier than at any other time last year. From November 29 to December 1, 21 cars of sheep and 108 cars of cattle and calves stopped off at the Denver market for feed and water. Montana, Wyoming, and South Dakota were represented in these shipments. Much of the stock was in extremely poor condition. To complicate the situation, government inspectors found some of the stock affected with scabies, which necessitated dipping before it could leave the yards.

The severe storm early in December, with zero weather for over a week, started another exodus of stock from Wyoming and Montana. Cattle are now being moved from those sections in train lots to southern pastures. The movement will probably continue until the middle of January. The hopes of many stockmen for a more normal winter have been badly shattered by the gymnastics of the weather in November and December. Losses were heavy during the last storm, and it was impossible to move in feed. There is no grass left, and the sensible thing is to ship the stock to market or to other ranges.

WAR ON UTAH'S WILD HORSES

Americans who like adventure and excitement are advised by a writer in *Popular Mechanics* to try their hand at hunting wild horses. In Skull Valley, near the Utah-Nevada line, there are thousands of wild horses, and ranch-owners in that district have begun a war of extermination. The wild steeds are becoming very troublesome, leading away domesticated stock, demolishing fences, and damaging property in general. Before the plan of shooting these horses was adopted, the ranchers tried corralling and shipping them to eastern markets. The expense of catching and shipping the animals was far above possible profits, however, and the danger connected with attempts at capture also were disproportionate. The horses are decidedly vicious, and several cases are cited where they literally dashed their brains out against a tree or post, rather than submit to capture.

Ranchers in Skull Valley invite shooting parties to go after the horses, and furnish guides and other necessary supplies. Estimates of the number of wild horses in the valley run as high as fifteen thousand.

The wild-horse evil is not confined to Utah. Other states are confronted with the same problem.

RUSSIAN THISTLE NUTRITIOUS

According to tests made by the North Dakota Agricultural College, the Russian thistle has much the same feeding value as alfalfa, we read in the *Breeder's Gazette*. It makes its most persistent growth in a dry season. In 1918 thirty-five sheep were pastured all summer on five acres of Russian thistles. The thistles are quite laxative, and the sheep scoured some; but in the fall they were fatter than is desired for good breeding condition. In 1919, on the same farm, fifty-two sheep were pastured on ten acres of Russian thistles. There was more feed than the sheep could use, and they were in excellent condition in the fall.

Russian thistles, if cut green, make excellent fodder.

TO RAISE DEER FOR MARKET

It is reported that a Kansas man has bought a 100,000-acre ranch at Gregory, Tex., where he proposes to raise deer for the market. Wire fences twelve feet high will be built around the entire property. The purchaser expects to send 10,000 deer to the slaughter-house each year, to aid in combating the high cost of living.

We hope this utopian scheme will be carried out, and we should like to see the trial balance of the venture at the end of a year or two. We suspect that the cost of handling the deer, gathering and shipping them, will be all out of proportion to the cost of handling ordinary domestic fat animals. Unless the deer can be sold at a stiff premium above the prices for ordinary meat animals, the project, we are afraid, is doomed to financial failure. It is some big job to domesticate deer, caribou, and reindeer, and unless that can be done, the possibility of that class of animals being utilized to increase the meat supply is remote.

A Cordial Invitation

is extended all visitors attending the

Stock Show

To see our Exhibit of
FARM AND STOCKMEN'S
SUPPLIES
AT THE ALBANY HOTEL

They are best for the Western

—Farmer
—Ranchman
—Stockman

Also call at our offices and salesrooms
—Lighting Plants, Engines, Water
Supply Systems and Meadow Washers
—shown in actual operation in our
demonstration room.

Address

1621-1639 FIFTEENTH ST.



The "FAMOUS" Water Elevator for IRRIGATION

Our Elevators are sold under a positive guarantee that they will handle water with 50 to 60 per cent less power than any pumping system on the market. We challenge any manufacturer of pumps to equal the performance of the "FAMOUS" Water Elevator. Manufactured in sizes from 250 to 1200 gallons per minute on elevations up to 100 feet. The system of no regrets. Write for catalogue.

Famous Water Elevator Co.
1410 Stout Street, Denver, Colo.

A SLAPPER THAT WORKS

An Iowa stock-raiser has perfected a stock-slapper for driving hogs and cattle which does little harm and makes lots of noise. He says that it will not bruise flesh, does not cause the animals any pain, and will certainly make them move along faster. A sample proved its efficiency when tried out on human beings, and the inventor claims even better results with dumb beasts.

MONTANA UNDAUNTED

"Montana will continue on the live-stock map of the United States," said Ed. Williams, of Miles City. "We have had a hard winter so far, doubtless some mortality has occurred, and the feed bill will be high; but we are getting considerable quantities of cake, and are endeavoring to secure more. There will undoubtedly be heavy mortality among horses, which will not be an unmixed evil, as they are a nuisance, consuming grass needed for cattle and sheep. Many have neglected to brand colts, as equine stock is a doubtful asset. Montana could lose 50 per cent of its range-horse population and still be ahead of the game."

WILD AFRICAN BOAR FOR BREEDING TESTS

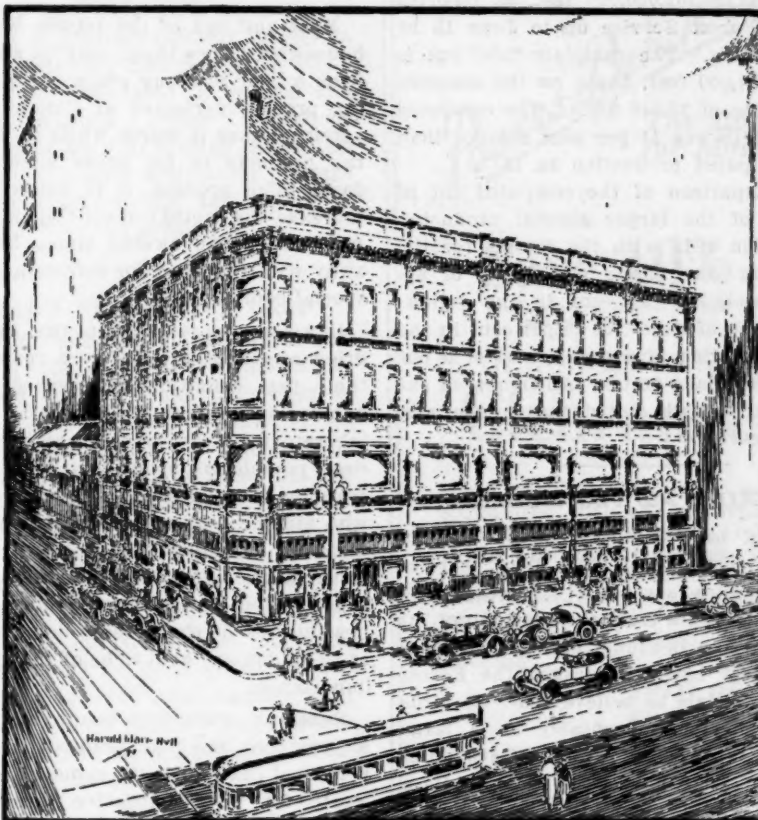
A wild boar from Africa has been imported by the experiment station of the Iowa State College for use in type-test and other breeding work, according to the *Chicago Daily Drovers' Journal*. The Kansas State Agricultural College received the boar from its original home and used him in a number of tests, sending him on to the Iowa institution as a gift.

All of our present-day breeds of swine are supposed to have been developed from the species to which this wild boar belongs, and the station hopes to do some interesting fundamental work with the animal. He has large tusks, and his hair, gray in color, is very long. His ears are black and stand upright. Although he weighs only 150 pounds, he does not lack in fierceness.

SIRE CENSUS IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Of interest is a live-stock survey recently completed in South Dakota for the purpose of ascertaining the quality of pure-bred sires, as well as the number of scrubs and grades in that region. Fourteen counties typical of live-stock conditions in the state were included in the survey. Of the sires in herds of cattle, 65 per cent were grades or scrubs, and about 25 per cent of the pure-bred sires were classed as inferior, according to the report. This is the first count of scrub pure-breds over a considerable area reported to the Department of Agriculture.

It was found that, when pure-bred sires were used, the average herd of twenty grade cows returned \$540 more profit during 1918 than when grade or scrub sires were used. It has been estimated that the elimination of inferior pure-bred sires would increase the average profit in each herd from \$540 to \$800 annually.



The Largest Store of Its Class Between Chicago and Frisco

Apparel and Accessories for Men, Women and Boys

Exclusive Denver Headquarters
Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes

Largest Stock in the West of
Stetson Staple Hats

Denver Headquarters for Discriminating Stockmen

Fano-Downs
DENVER, COLORADO

DECREASE IN LUMBER CUT

The lumber cut of the United States in 1918 was 29,362,020,000 feet, as reported to the Forest Service up to June 15 by 14,753 mills. The complete total cut is 31,890,454,000 feet, based on the assumed operations of 22,546 mills. The computed cut in 1918 was 11 per cent smaller than the computed production in 1917.

A comparison of the computed cut of several of the larger general producing regions in 1918 with the figures for the preceding year shows a decrease of approximately 20 per cent in the yellow-pine group of states, of 19 per cent in the North Carolina pine group, and of 9 per cent in the lake states. An increased cut of 2 per cent is noted for Oregon and Washington.

PIGEONS AID FIRE-FIGHTERS

During last summer's forest fires in certain sections of the West carrier pigeons were successfully employed to convey messages from the fire-fighters "at the front" to headquarters. The results of the test have encouraged the Forest Service officials to believe that the birds can be employed profitably on a large scale in this work. Flights of 600 miles in a single day have been made, while a distance of 140 to 200 miles means a two- or three-hour flight for the average bird.

OUR BIRD POPULATION

Owing to the abnormal conditions caused by the war, many persons who had formerly taken part in the annual bird census undertaken by the Bureau of Biological Survey, in co-operation with the Audubon societies, were unable to find time for this volunteer work during the past year. Reports were received from only eighty-four persons, covering about 100 different areas. Over 1,350,000 cards containing information on the distribution and migration of North American birds are now on file in the offices of the Survey. These will be of great value in the administration of the migratory-bird treaty between the United States and Canada.

As a result of the counts, it has been established that in the northeastern states birds average a pair to the acre, while in the arid parts of the West and on the treeless plains they average only one pair to two acres or more of land. The densest reported bird population is in Maryland, near Washington, D. C. In the northeastern states the following, named in the order of their abundance, are commonest: robin, English sparrow, catbird, brown thrasher, house wren, kingbird, bluebird.

NEW PROCESS FOR PRESERVING MEATS AND FISH

[Current Opinion]

Meat and fish of the future, when the housewife serves them, may be anywhere from a year to many years old, if a drying process perfected at Columbia University makes it worth while to store up the products of fat years against lean days. The process, it is believed, will increase the world's meat-shipping capacity more than twelve times by doing away with the need for refrigeration and special containers.

In a series of tests meats that had been dried and kept a year were restored to their first condition and served in the homes of professors attached to the laboratory. A few months ago three hundred pounds of meat sent to an army training-camp were served to the soldiers, who ate the restored meat and failed to discover any difference between it and fresh meat. With half the world facing a protracted period of food shortage, the possibilities of the process demonstrated at Columbia are held to be of the greatest importance.

Research work was begun more than a year ago and has gradually been so perfected that, after the removal of bone, waste fat, and connective tissues, the meat is cut into cubes—or, in the case of beef, into steaks—placed in a vacuum, and subjected to a period of drying at a relatively low temperature. No other treatment, we read, is necessary. Fish dries in four to eight hours and meat in ten.

Meat so dried exhibits no visible or chemical change, with the sole exception that all water is removed. It remains absolutely sterile, free from putrefying germs, so that it can be kept indefinitely without refrigeration. Meat and fish treated by the new process, we are assured, return, when soaked in water, to their original condition, and, when cooked, have the appearance and flavor of fresh food.

NEW PASTURES FOR REINDEER

The North American Reindeer Company, capitalized at \$750,000, has been granted a concession of 75,850 square miles of land north of the Churchill River, at the Pass, Manitoba, on which to graze caribou and reindeer.

WOOL CLIP FOR THREE YEARS

Estimates of the domestic wool clip by states show the total to be about 267,000,000 pounds for 1919, compared with 275,921,000 in 1918, and 241,892,000 in 1917, according to *Bradstreet's*.

A Drop in the Bucket

Every householder's expenses are divided into a number of items: food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, house-furnishings, insurance, education and amusements, sickness—and the telephone.

Of all these items of expense, the telephone bill is one of the least, being a very small per cent of the total cost.

For a trifling sum at most you have constantly at your command millions of dollars' worth of property and the service of skilled workers.

In business the cost of the telephone is frequently an even smaller proportion of the overhead expense than in the household.

It only needs an emergency to bring it home to any subscriber that the telephone is worth many times its cost.

In the face of today's high costs, the telephone is a bargain, and a daily economy for every subscriber.

The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company

DEMAND FOR RABBIT SKINS

In recent years several kinds of fur, formerly of so little value as to offer no inducement to the trapper, have risen in price, and consequently collecting them has been made profitable. Rabbit pelts, which are extensively used by hat-makers, are among these products. One eastern concern has announced that it will need 10,000,000 rabbit skins during 1919 and 1920, and it desires so far as possible to secure them from American sources. This is an indication of a market which should interest many a farmer boy. This winter dried, cased rabbit skins will probably bring a reasonably good return. They are sold by the pound, which will contain seven or eight skins. Many farm boys can readily acquire, in the course of the winter, large numbers of skins, which will net them a tidy sum. The Department of Agriculture will supply any inquirer with the names and addresses of possible purchasers of rabbit skins and other pelts.

RACCOON'S FOOD MUST BE WASHED

The raccoon has a habit not indulged in by any other animal. If given a piece of meat, he will not touch a mouthful until he has washed it in as clear water as he can find, and he will allow no one to do this for him, says a writer in *American Forestry*. So thoroughly does he perform this task that he not only soaks all the blood out of the meat, but actually reduces the morsel to a very uninviting, flabby piece of pale flesh. When it is sufficiently macerated to his liking, he will devour it with apparent relish. Ears of corn he will wash in the same fashion. It was this habit that prompted Linnaeus to bestow the specific name of *lotor* ("washer") on this interesting animal.

'AY' IGH IN HINGLAND

Lee Simonsen, a well-known stockman of Billings, Mont., recently returned from a trip to England and the continent of Europe. He reports that hay is selling in the stack in England at \$90 a ton, and that baled hay in London brings \$125 a ton. Prices for good fat cattle, both in England and in France, are only slightly higher than in the United States. In England the Food Controller still regulates prices of live stock. France is receiving regular consignments of live cattle from Argentina.

Mr. Simonsen states that the people over there are bitterly disappointed over the failure of Congress to ratify the Peace Treaty.

IDAHO WOOL-GROWERS INDORSE PACKER AGREEMENT

Wool-growers of Idaho, at their recent convention in Boise, gave approval to the action of Attorney-General Palmer in bringing about the divorcement of meat-packers from unrelated industries and lines of business. Other resolutions adopted favor ten-year grazing permits on public lands, federal arbitration of wage and labor disputes, and segregation of horses and cattle on grazing areas.

WORLD'S PRODUCTIVE LAND

The total land area of the world (excluding the polar regions) is about 30,000,000,000 acres. What proportion of this is productive agriculturally is not definitely known; but the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome has collected data for thirty-six countries, having a total land area of 15,071,209,000 acres; of which it is estimated that 4,591,691,000 acres, or 30.5 per cent, are productive, and 1,313,832,000 acres, or 8.7 per cent, are cultivated land (including fallow land and artificial grasses). The productive land includes, besides cultivated land, natural meadows and pastures, forests, wood lots, and land devoted to cultivated trees and shrubs.

THE COST OF STRIKES

The *New York Sun* publishes an article showing that since January 1, 1919, strikes in this country have caused a loss of approximately \$1,989,835,750 to capital and labor. This is divided as follows: loss to labor, \$723,478,300; loss to capital, \$1,266,357,450.

TO A PIG

The following valedictory was recently read at the sale of the last pig to leave the sty of a London "ploughholder":

Alas, poor pig, alas! No more
With gladsome step thou'lt cross the floor
Of thy dear sty. No more thou'lt steal
Unto thy trough, to eat thy meal
Of boiled potatoes, swedes, and greens,
And carrots fine, and luscious beans.
No more thou'lt wallow in the mud,
On summer day, to cool thy blood;
No more thou'lt rub against the posts
To rid thyself of pestered hosts;
No more, on litter clean, thou'lt sleep,
And music make with snores so deep.
For now thou'rt dead! Thy life is spent!
With fearsome shrieks the air thou rent;
Thy whilom friends, who thee caressed,
And fed thee on the very best,
Full soon, with glee, will feast on thee,
And pledge thee in their revelry.
Farewell! But ere from thee I turn,
Heav'n grant that I this lesson learn:
For good of others, high or low,
Or rich or poor, or friend or foe,
May I be willing to resign
My life—as e'en thou gavest thine.

Powers-Behen & Co.
The Store
for Men

Save 10%

on Kuppenheimer Clothes
(and other famous makes)

IN OUR SEMI-ANNUAL
Clearance

Many regular customers, well acquainted with the unvarying high quality and advance styles of our Suits and Overcoats, are supplying their wants for a year during this reduction sale—certainly wise economy in view of the scarcity of high-grade clothing.

16th at
California
Denver

ALBERT LEA

Lighting Systems



Our Latest
Hollow-Wire
**GAS
PLANT**

can be installed in
your home for
about one-fourth
the cost of an
electric system.
Makes its own gas
from common
motor gasoline.

Each lamp gives 300 candle-power light. A full line of portable lamps, lanterns, sad irons and stoves always in stock.

Write us for further information.

**Albert Lea Gas Light
COMPANY**

2053 WELTON STREET
DENVER, COLO.

AFTER THE DAY'S WORK

NANCY LANGHORNE ASTOR, M. P.

FROM a short-skirted tomboy riding to the hounds in the hills of the Old Dominion, or a celebrated southern belle dancing her nights away in Richmond, to a British viscountess, sitting as "the honorable member from Plymouth," discussing factory legislation in the ancient halls of Parliament at Westminster, seems a far enough cry to challenge the imagination even in these days of topsyturvy. Nancy Langhorne, of Albemarle County, Virginia—now Lady Astor of Hever Castle, England—"sassed" her way across the gulf. A little more than a month ago this American-born wife of an American-born peer of the realm took her seat as the first woman ever elected to the British House of Commons. David Lloyd George and Arthur J. Balfour—each the biggest man in his party—were her sponsors. Two continents looked on, amazed and amused. The Pilgrim Fathers turned over in their graves, and Mrs. Pankhurst is reported to have gone on a new hunger strike.

* * *

The victory of "Nanny" Astor has been described as a purely personal one. If so, it is only the more to her credit. "Standing," as they say in England, as a Unionist candidate in an old Tory stronghold, where the policies of the present coalition cabinet are none too popular, and where, besides, the Labor party is rapidly forging to the front, she was handicapped from the beginning. Her title and her wealth probably detracted from her strength more than they added to it—the fishermen and dock laborers, whose wives she had nursed and whose children she knew by name, would follow her smart turn-out with admiring eyes and greet her with affectionate familiarity, but on election day would cast their votes for the man from their own ranks. And she was a "Yankee." Birds of foreign plumage, however brilliant, are viewed with more or less prejudice and suspicion everywhere in the world. A few "highbrows" may be attracted by divergence, but the common run of humanity prefer those whose cut of coat conforms to the parish standard. Many electors no doubt refused to bestow



THE HONORABLE MEMBER FROM
PLYMOUTH

on the "furriner" an honor of which a great plenty of natives were at least equally deserving.

Nevertheless, Nanny triumphed, although by a plurality greatly reduced from that by which her husband, whom she succeeded, had been returned. And the qualities which brought home the victory are thus set forth in a complimentary press:

Beautiful—one of the far-famed "five Langhorne sisters," of whom Mrs. Charles Dana Gibson is the most renowned; unlike the latter, however, small and slight; nervous, high-strung, alert; fascinating, brilliant, witty, quick as a flash at repartee—a trait that stood her in good stead during the campaign, when she more than held her own in the merciless "heckling" to which all political candidates in England are subjected; as serious of thought as she is fun-loving of disposition; deeply religious; charitable and benevolent beyond common bounds; intensely loyal to old friends; absolutely devoid of snobbery, treating everybody according to his individual worth, be it prince or merchant, maid or duchess; a great favorite with British "Intellectuals;" sincerely devoted to her adopted country, at the same time that she is

aggressively proud of her American birth. All in all, a personality quite in her own name.

Age, a feminine forty; married to Major Waldorf Astor, son of William Waldorf Astor, of New York, who in the nineties whisked the dust of an unappreciative democracy off his galtered pedals and set sail for England, where his well-placed millions in due time procured him a peerage; six children, of which fact she publicly boasts, and a husband whose war record bears close inspection. The major, inheriting his father's title, now automatically is transferred to the House of Lords. "Poor old viscount!" mocks Nanny.

MUSCULAR STRENGTH OF WOMEN AND MEN ALIKE

In a study of the muscular strength of college women, recently undertaken at Leland Stanford University, it was shown that muscular strength is much more a matter of use than of sex, according to an account given in the *Woman Citizen*. Thus, in the group studied, it was found that women's pectoral muscles are weaker than men's, on account of the use of certain articles of clothing (brasieres, etc.) that limit their activity. Back muscles, on the other hand, are stronger in women than in men, because women's clothes are to a large extent buttoned in the back, while men's are buttoned in front. Certain of women's arm muscles are strong, owing to the fact that they do up their hair, and also because the heavy coat sleeves of men limit the freedom of action of these muscles. The forearm of men is better developed than that of women, because women wear tight sleeves and do not customarily lift weights.

FACES

[Harold T. Pulsifer in Outlook]

Four faces in the dark,
Eight eyes aglow
With the pale lunar spark
Fireflies do show.

Four brows, specter-white,
Crowned with lambent hair—
Only in the blackest night
Are these things there.

Eight lips that question me,
Moving to and fro;
Quiet as shadows be
On new-fallen snow.

Eight hands beckoning,
Spindrift of the wind;
Past all mortal reckoning
Are phantoms of the mind.

Deep, return to deep again,
And old dreams fade!
Children, let me sleep again,
Calm and unafraid!

FARMS AND RANCHES

2,400 ACRES

Six Miles from Denver Capitol Dark, sandy loam soil; all level tractor land; good fences; four wells and windmills; one artesian; fine large barn; bungalow house; 100 acres alfalfa, 200 acres winter wheat, 300 acres broken for corn and beans, balance in grama and buffalo grass. Will care for 300 cattle year around.

\$35 per Acre; \$25,000 Cash, balance long time at 6 per cent.

GEORGE G. CLARK REALTY CO.
1806 California St., Denver, Colo.

9,000 ACRES

Situated eight miles from city limits of Pueblo, along smooth, fertile valley, within one mile of three railroads. Character of soil excellent for all kinds of grains or fruit; fully 85 per cent favorable for cultivation. Valuable for grazing or stock-raising. Inclosed in good three and four-strand barbed-wire fence. Good spring for stock water. Attractive proposition for any large cattle company. Price **\$10.00 an acre. Reasonable terms.**

GEORGE H. BURNS
304 Gas and Electric Building, Denver

Stock Yards Snap

160 ACRES

Irrigated, only $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles to Denver Stock Yards.

Seven-room house, barns, corrals, fine artesian well, 50 acres alfalfa. Easy terms.

Price \$30,000

J. T. Fredericksen Inv. Co.
321 Symes Building, Denver, Colo.

Choice 200-Acre

Improved, Irrigated

Platte Valley Farm

Nine miles from Denver Union Stockyards. Excellent for stockraising, feeding or dairy farm. Cement road. Terms.

PRICE \$150 AN ACRE

R. F. FERGUSON,
934 17th Street, Denver, Colo.

Money to Loan

We loan our own funds and guarantee you prompt service on farms and ranches. Call or write for rates and terms.

The Eastern Colorado Farm Loan Company
410 First Nat. Bank Bldg.
Denver Colorado

RANCH—CATTLE

3 ranches, 840 acres in all. Home ranch, good improvements, with orchard and garden; lower ranch, fair improvements, 40 acres timothy and clover; gathering pasture of 320 acres all under ditch, 40 acres in alfalfa; best summer and winter range in U. S.; 400 head mixed cattle and 100 calves; 10 head of horses; hogs; chickens; two sets farming implements. Owner retiring on account of age. Can be handled with little money.

Price \$50,000

Edwin P. McCrimmon
710 Eighteenth St., Denver, Colo.

1,630-Acre Foot-hill Stock Ranch

Located on Lincoln Highway; fenced and cross-fenced; fine trout stream runs through the place; timber and shelter for stock; 80 acres under irrigation, now in hay; free water rights; six-room house, water and lights; large stock and hay barn, horse barn, stock sheds, corrals; beautiful location. **Price \$12.50 pr. acre**

E. F. PEIRCE
206 Temple Court Bldg., Denver, Colo.

1920 Acres

Sections 33, 34 and 35, located 30 miles southeast of Federal building; fenced; complete set of buildings. Box Elder Creek passes thru center section 34. Along creek are a number of living springs which afford abundance of water for cattle all season. Fully 400 acres will grow alfalfa without irrigation. Soil conditions good. We own this property and offer for immediate sale at **\$50,000**

The Gagan Land Co.
1st Nat'l Bank Bldg., Denver, Colo.

R. L. CLOW

LAND OFFICE

1513 Stout Street Denver, Colo.

60-year pioneer of Colorado; 43 years in the land business. Thousands of satisfied clients. The father of the genuine rainbelt, which has never been known to have a crop failure; 21 years at 1513 Stout street. Tell me your land wants. The choicest dairy and farming section of Colorado. Farms from \$12 to \$50 up per acre. Many cases include stock, crops and implements. Sizes from 160, 320 to 80,000 acres. Moderately and well improved Elbert and Douglas county specials. Terms from one-fourth to one-third cash. Let your wants be known.

Ranches Close to Denver

240 acres; 30 acres in alfalfa, balance pasture land; six-room brick dwelling. Price, \$50 per acre.

120 acres; 35 acres in alfalfa, balance grain land; good brick dwelling, barns, sheds, etc. Price, \$125 per acre.

We have some large tracts of low-price grazing land.

SYDNEY C. OSMER & CO.
401 14th Street DENVER, COLO.

28 Years in Denver

Reynolds, Covey & Reynolds

FARM LANDS AND RANCHES

We specialize in Kiowa Valley Lands of which we are the owners.

625 Exchange Bldg. Denver, Colo.

1,120 Acres Well Improved

growing lots of alfalfa and corn, 960 acres additional pasture under lease. Close to railroad town, 20 miles from Denver stockyards; excellent grass, spring water, good shelter. Must sell to close estate.

Price \$28,000

If larger proposition is wanted can obtain 3,000 acres adjoining.

WALTER W. OLMSTED
608 Ideal Building
17th and Champa Sts., Denver, Colo.

THE WOMAN'S CORNER

THE PRODUCER invites its women readers to send it contributions, ideas, suggestions for this department. Co-operate with us in making the "Corner" just what you want it to be. Address all communications to Editor Woman's Corner, THE PRODUCER, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colo.

STARTING RIGHT WITH THE NEW YEAR

[Mabel Compton]

THERE IS SOME PLEASURE to be found in all work, if we only know how and where to look for it. But I cannot help thinking—not so much from actual observation as just from an impression—that you women who most need the pleasure of your work in your daily lives find of it the least. That, perhaps, is because it seems buried so deep beneath endless hours of toil and the grim monotony of so many a day exactly like the day that went before and the day that is to follow.

It is a very easy matter, of course, for the woman in town to make her work light and pleasant, with all modern conveniences at her hand. The country housewife, however, has the advantage of more interesting work and more fruitful labor; though it is very hard for her, when standing over the kitchen range with a hot, mussy job on a summer day, to see the beauty, economy, and comfort of her well-filled cellar shelves next winter, or particularly to anticipate the pleasure of drawers of fresh linens at the back-breaking moment of bending over the wash-tub.

The country woman makes her work too hard, her hours too long—or lets others do it for her. She should better learn her own limitations and remember that there is always a tomorrow for the work that cannot be done today. That is one blessing about tomorrows, anyway. And she should make a regular business of investigating the household labor-saving devices on the market, just as her husband considers the merits of the latest farm implements. By a few such helps, and a little care and forethought in regulating her work, she can do much toward making it less trying and irksome; thereby saving her nerves, her strength, and her temper, and adding a good deal to the comfort and attractiveness of her home.

Don't wait for somebody else to find out about these things for you! He is not likely to think about these things, because he does not understand them. He just leaves all that to you, as you left the hay and the horses to him. If he knew that your days were just so many hours of drudgery, and that that was the reason why he had missed the sweetness of your smile of late, the cheery song about the house, the chummy chatter, the pretty way you used to do your hair, the ruffy little dress you used to wear, he would begin to think about it. But a man does not connect these things himself. You have to do it for him.

Plan your work. Very likely you will find that you can accomplish the same purpose in a better way, with less time and energy, merely by adopting a little system. Most women take a great many useless steps and waste a good deal of mis-directed effort. Many of us are rushing about in a vain attempt to catch up with our task, which never seems to be done. Our work drives us instead of our driving it.

Planning, looking ahead, and being ready—that is the way to find pleasure in your work. And that is a large share of the profit. Make up your mind to try it. That would be a very good New Year resolution.

CARE OF THE HANDS

Housework is hard on the hands. A little caution and care, however, will work wonders. It seems a trifle awkward just at first to work with gloves on, but in a few days you would not be without them—an old, loose-fitting pair of heavy kid gloves for sweeping, dusting, making fires, cleaning stoves, etc., and a pair of

thin rubber ones for dishwashing and laundry work. Soaking the hands too much in soapy water is just as injurious as having dust and grime ground into them. Always rinse the soapy water from the hands as quickly as possible, dry thoroughly, and rub a little cold-cream into them.

The combined use of gloves for heavy,

dirty work and the following treatment will well repay you in hand-comfort, as well as in appearance. You will not be troubled with rough, sore, or cracked hands, nor brittle, breaking nails and ragged "hangnails" and cuticle:

On the sink shelf have handy a good-sized salt-shaker filled with corn-meal, a cut lemon, and a jar of healing-cream. After the heavy work of 'the day, and at night, wash the hands well with warm water and any mild soap. While they are wet with the soap and water, shake over them a little of the meal, and rub well together. This cleanses the pores thoroughly and improves the circulation. Rinse in tepid water, and rub the lemon over them. Especially get the lemon juice around and under the nails. It is an excellent astringent and whitener. Dip the hands in the rinsing water again after a moment, and dry. Then rub the cream well into them.

Below is a recipe for an excellent cream that can be made at home. And if you care to take a little more trouble still in behalf of pretty hands, I shall be glad to tell you where you can get a dainty miniature manicure outfit for twenty cents that will give you several home manicures quite as good as those you get in town at the "beauty parlors" for seventy-five cents or a dollar:

Rose and Almond Cream

4 ounces sweet	2 ounces rose
almond oil	water
1 ounce spermaceti	2 ounces cocoa
1 ounce white wax	butter
	20 drops benzoin

Break up the spermaceti, wax, and cocoa butter. Heat these with the almond oil in a double boiler. Stir until dissolved and well mixed. Remove from heat, and beat with an egg-beater till cold, adding, a few drops at a time, the benzoin and rose water.

THE HANDY LITTLE FOOD-CHOPPER

When buying one of these, it pays to get the best—one that cuts the food instead of merely mangling it and crushing out all the juice. There is a decided difference in makes, some being more trouble than they are worth to handle and clean, while others are really the great convenience they are meant to be. A satisfactory chopper should have a large-sized hopper, stand well up from the table, be easy-running, readily changed from coarse to fine cutter, and open up easily for cleaning of all parts.

It is a great help in the use of left-overs. Many very palatable and attractive dishes may thus be prepared from materials that might otherwise appear on the table merely as scraps, or go to waste entirely. It helps along wonderfully in the old problem of variety.

Below are several recipes which you will like:

Veal Loaf

2 lbs. lean veal or beef	2 medium-sized onions
¼ lb. salt pork	2 teaspoons salt
2 cups bread-crumbs	½ teaspoon white pepper
2 eggs, well beaten	2 teaspoons powdered sage
2 cups beef broth	

Grind the veal, pork, onion, and crackers fine; add eggs and seasoning; moisten with a little meat broth, mold into a loaf, and bake until quite brown, basting occasionally with the broth.

Hamburger Cakes

1 lb. ground round steak	Little salt and pepper
1 grated onion	1 egg

Have meat finely ground; mix well with seasoning, form into cakes, and fry well. Have ready hot frying-pan with 2 tablespoons of bacon drippings. Fry quickly until nicely browned, first on one side, then on the other. Place on hot dish. Add 1 tablespoon of flour to grease left in pan; mix until smooth. Into this pour half a pint of beef broth or water; stir until it boils; season, and pour over or around the cakes.

Rice and Mutton Timbales

1 cup boiled rice	3 cups cold mutton (without fat)
3 tablespoons melted butter	Salt and pepper to taste

Mix thoroughly; place in well-greased small molds, or one large mold if preferred; cover well, and steam 15 or 20 minutes. Serve with tomato sauce.

Chicken or Veal Croquettes

2 cups finely ground cold chicken or veal	
1 small onion	1 teaspoon finely chopped parsley
½ teaspoon salt	1 egg
½ teaspoon white pepper	1 cup thick white sauce (cold)

Mix ingredients well, shape, crumb, and fry.

Corned-Beef Hash

2 cups cold corned beef	1 onion grated
2 cups cold boiled potatoes	Little salt and pepper

Grind meat and potatoes, toss lightly together with seasoning, and turn into hot buttered spider; moisten slightly with milk; cook slowly till well browned underneath; fold as an omelet on hot platter.

Sausage

4 lbs. fat pork	12 tablespoons salt
12 lbs. lean pork	8 scant teaspoons white pepper
8 tablespoons powdered sage	

Make cotton bags about ½ yard long and 4 inches wide; dip them in strong salt water, and dry. Mix the meat and seasoning thoroughly, and press firmly into the bags; tie tightly, and hang in cold place to keep. As wanted for use, turn back the end of the bag and slice off the required amount of sausage.

THE LETTER BOX

We shall be glad to pass along your favorite recipes, and any valuable and unusual household suggestions that may be helpful to others.

"I have found chicken fat very useful in cooking. A good many chickens are generally used on the farm, and there is often a good deal of this excellent fat used for no better purpose than to swell the garbage-can for the pigs. Properly prepared, it makes a very delicate shortening and seasoning.

"It is best to chop up the fat and place it on the range in a deep sauce-pan with clear cold water—considerably more than enough to cover. Let it come slowly to the boiling-point, and continue to simmer for 15 minutes or so. Put aside to chill. When thoroughly cold, the pure grease may be lifted off the top.

"It is just as good as butter for cake-making; makes a delicious French or mayonnaise salad dressing, often preferred to olive oil; is an excellent seasoning for oyster stew and the more delicate vegetables—asparagus, green peas, and the like—and is quite equal to half butter and half lard for fine pastries.—Mrs. A. C. W."

"Usually, when the food burns, the dish is spoiled. If the pan or kettle is taken at once from the range and placed for a few minutes in a larger vessel containing cold water, and the food removed to another pan to finish cooking, being careful to disturb none of the burnt part, there will be no taint or odor of scorching whatever.

"To clean a burnt pan, or any old discolored pot or pan, fill with cold water in which a few tablespoons of washing-soda have been dissolved. Set on range to heat. Let water slowly boil away. Refill with cold water, and let come to boil again. Then wash and dry. This process cleans wonderfully without any scraping.—Mrs. I. J. S."

"An excellent substitute for whipped cream can be made from any good brand of unsweetened, evaporated milk. Chill, whip, add sugar and flavoring, and you can hardly tell it from the genuine.

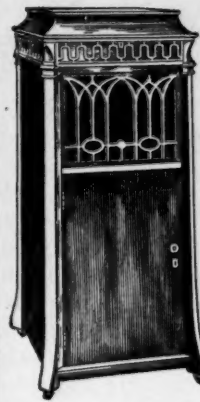
"If your custard curdles, beat up a raw egg, and slowly beat the curdled custard into it until smooth.

"If the meringue on your lemon pie falls in spite of you, you have put it in too hot an oven. Beat the whites of eggs very dry and stiff. Gradually beat in a large tablespoonful of powdered sugar for each egg. Slightly cool the pie or pudding before putting on the meringue. Bake in a very moderate oven, with door open, for 15 or 20 minutes. After the first light browning it must dry out rather than cook.—Miss E. T. N."

"Your sewing-machine oil-can may come in very handy sometimes for other things. If bolts and locks don't work properly, if the egg-beater won't go, and the ice-cream freezer turns hard, try a drop of oil. In the case of door hinges, put a paper on the floor first, as you may spill a little.—V. H."

In Japan the fashions in woman's clothes have remained practically unchanged for 2,500 years.

The New Edison Diamond Disc



is the thoroughbred of Phonographs

The artist's voice or instrument is recorded and reproduced true to life.

No other phonograph or talking machine is capable of this

Mail this coupon and we will send you further information regarding THE NEW EDISON.

Name _____

Post Office _____

R.F.D. _____ State _____

Carl Schultz Piano Co.
141 Broadway, Denver, Colo.

Beautiful Women



are admired by all and every effort should be made to retain and enhance your beauty

LeSecret Toilet Specialties

are unequalled for the lady of refinement. Give them a trial.

Face Powder
[Flesh or White]

\$1.00

Cold Cream
75c

Toilet Water
[6 ounces]

\$1.50

Perfume
\$1.00

Sent postpaid on receipt of price

THE IMPORTERS COMPANY
Distributors
1335 Lawrence St. Denver, Colo.

THE KIDS' CORRAL

THE DAY OF THE THREE KINGS

[Evelyn Stein]

When the Three Kings came riding their camels from the East, seeking the Christ-child that they might worship him and lay at his feet their gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh, it was the sixth of January before the wonderful Star paused over the manger in Bethlehem. So this day, the twelfth after Christmas, has come to be called "Twelfth-day," or "The Day of the Three Kings;" and, though here in America we pay but little heed to it, in the older countries across the sea for hundreds of years people have celebrated Twelfth-day almost as much as Christmas itself. In the south of France it is said that on this day the Three Kings ride on their way once more, just as on Christmas Eve the Christ-child walks the earth again. And often the little French children will take wisps of hay for the camels, and handfuls of figs and olives for the Kings themselves, and run along the roads hoping to see them come riding by, wearing their splendid robes and crowns and bearing their beautiful gifts. And the children are so disappointed when they find the Kings have gone past along another path! In other countries there are many pretty old customs, too, and everywhere is merriment and feasting, and at these feasts are always wonderful cakes. Often a bean is baked in them, and whoever finds it in his or her slice is called "King, or Queen, of the Bean," and is crowned with gilded paper and rules until midnight. And, no matter how mad a prank the king or queen commands, no one dares to disobey; and, of course, this makes a great deal of fun and laughter.

But these Twelfth-cakes do not always have a bean in them; for in some countries people think of the poor and unhappy when the cake is divided. Thus, in Brittany, when a feast is given to celebrate the Day of the Three Kings, and the cake is brought in, the master of the house breaks it into as many slices as there are feasters, and one besides. This extra piece is considered the right of the first beggar who comes to the door, and it is called "God's Share," because, you know, our Lord has said that whenever we feed the hungry it is the same as feeding him. And it is an old Breton

legend about God's Share that I am going to tell you now.

Once upon a time there lived in Brittany a nobleman whose name was Count Raoul. He had a strong castle, perched on a crag overlooking his wide fields. There were a deep moat and a high stone wall surrounding it, and the castle itself had many tall towers and turrets, and in its center was a great banqueting-hall. The stone floors of this were strewn with rugs of costly fur, and the gray walls were hung with silken tapestries. At each end of the hall were huge hooded fireplaces, where all winter long blazed great fires of logs; for the winds of Brittany are cold and bleak.

Yet, with all its rich furnishings, its chests of treasure hidden away in the strong towers, and the blazing fires of the banquet-hall, the castle was a gloomy place, unless its master gave a feast; for visitors seldom came unless bidden, and Count Raoul, who was proud and haughty and selfish, had neither wife nor child, but lived alone, waited upon by servants who feared his displeasure and never expected a kindness from him. Clothed in satin and velvet, with jeweled chains and buckles, he would mount his prancing black horse and ride over his lands, little caring that the poor peasants who were obliged to till his fields had only rags of homespun to cover them, and often scarcely more than a crust on their tables. Indeed, sometimes, when the winters were long and hard, the poorest of these peasant folk would have to beg for bread with which to feed their children; yet never did their master pity or strive to help them.

It was on one of these cold winters that Count Raoul decided to give a Twelfth-night feast; though it was really more because he wished to display his wealth and jewels, and the gold and silver with which his table was set out, than because he cared to give any pleasure to others. His guests, who knew his coldness and selfishness, thought as much; nevertheless they accepted his invitation, and, when the Twelfth-night stars began to twinkle, sleigh after sleigh, with jingling bells, wound up the steep crag to the castle, and soon the gay company streamed into the banquet-hall. Bright torches, flaring from the walls, lighted up the green garlands everywhere and

the long table sparkling with silver dishes and golden cups and flagons of red wine. Count Raoul, splendid in velvets and gems, took his place at the head of the table, and the feast began. First of all came a great boar's head, with a red apple shining between his teeth and sprigs of holly tucked behind his ears; and after that an endless array of hares and venison, pasties of game and sweetmeats—all served with the greatest ceremony, as was the fashion in those days.

At last came time for the wonderful Twelfth-cake, which was borne in on a golden platter decked with green garlands and silken streamers. Before it walked a little page clad in scarlet and blowing a silver horn, and, as those who carried the platter paused by Count Raoul, they lifted it high so everyone could see, and all clapped their hands and greeted it with merry shouts. Then it was placed before Count Raoul, who carefully divided it, though nobody knew that he left no extra piece. And this was not because he did not know how many guests were there; for he knew exactly. Nor was it because the cake was not enough for all; for it was abundantly large. No, it was because he had no pity for beggars and deliberately meant there should be no God's Share.

Scarcely was the cake divided before there was heard a sound of knocking at the castle gate, and presently a seneschal came into the hall, and, kneeling before Count Raoul, "My lord," he said, "there stands without the castle a poor beggar. His head is bare, and he has only a ragged cloak. He humbly craves that he may receive God's Share of your Twelfth-night feast."

Count Raoul slowly finished sipping the red wine from his golden cup, and then, tossing his head with a scornful laugh, "Bid the beggar begone," he said, "and before I set my hounds upon him! Tell him in this, my feast, God has not any share!"

The guests, when they heard those wicked words, turned pale with fright and horror, and the seneschal trembled as he went haltingly out, fearing to repeat the cruel message, yet not daring to disobey.

The beggar listened with head meekly bowed and hands crossed upon his breast. Then, with a sigh as if his heart were breaking, slowly he lifted up his eyes, brimming with tears and beautiful as passion flowers beneath the rain. And, as the seneschal gazed at him, his own heart chilling with fear, around the beggar's head there glowed a strange white radiance; and, as his ragged cloak fell apart, all his garments beneath gleamed white

as snow and shining with the same strange white light.

At this the seneschal, terrified, fell upon his knees, crying out: "Lord Jesus, thou blessed Son of Mary, have mercy upon me! God knows I feared to bear that wicked word! Have pity, Christ, I pray!"

The Lord Jesus—for it was indeed he who had come as a beggar to see if Count Raoul was wholly pitiless—now, stooping compassionately, raised the poor seneschal, whom he knew to be innocent of blame. But, as he turned toward the castle, his heavenly eyes grew sad and stern. The ragged cloak fell from his shoulders, and his gleaming white robe lighted the snow around him as, raising his right hand, silently he pointed to the great pile towering gray and stony beneath the wintry stars. Instantly all those twinkling stars were blotted out, as a black cloud swiftly spread over the sky and broke into a fearful tempest. Wild winds rushed forth in wrath from the four quarters of the sky, and red, fiery lightnings began to play over the castle walls. At the first flashing of these the terrified guests fled from the banquet-hall and down the lofty crag; and scarcely had the last of these departed before the great stone wall fell crashing into the moat, and with a roar as of thunder the whole proud castle, towers and dungeon-keep and all, toppled to the ground, so that not one stone was left standing upon another.

When morning broke, the tempest had passed, and the sun shone over a dazzling waste of snow, save where the great castle had been. There was only a blackened ruin there, and beside it stood a solitary figure. It was Count Raoul, though not one of those who had sat at his feast the night before could possibly have guessed it. There was no haughty nobleman in velvets and jewels, but a bowed and wretched-looking man clad in rags and a cloak such as the poorest beggar wears. In his trembling hands was a staff, and on this he leaned heavily as he tottered down the snowy crag and disappeared from sight.

But he did not disappear forever. No, though all these things happened hundreds of years ago, the folk of Brittany declare that still on Twelfth-night it is Count Raoul's doom to walk the earth. Still must he wander through Brittany, stopping at every door to beg God's Share, yet never receiving it. Those who deny it to him do not so in scorn, as did Count Raoul himself when he denied the beggar at his own gate, but because it is the Lord God's will that they refuse him; for this is Count Raoul's punishment.

And so it is that still on Twelfth-night in Brittany, if the wind is high, and per-

haps the doors or windows suddenly rattle or shake, the children look up quickly and ask: "Mother, is it Count Raoul knocking?" And then they shiver and make haste to give alms and a friendly word to every lone beggar who craves their kindness.

BLESSING FOR THE NEW YEAR

[Evelyn Stein]

Wassail the little year—
In cradle of the cold,
A merry one and bold!
Thus, in the snow and rime,
So brave the winter time
With rugged cheer!

Ye lucky stars, so bless
And shine upon his birth
That over all the earth
His horoscope shall be
Sign of prosperity
And happiness!

THE CROSSING

[Edmund Vance Cooke in Life]

Maiden Lane runs east and west,
And likewise west and east;
There all maiden charms are best,
And maiden foibles least.

Ladd Street courses north and south,
And likewise south and north;
There the lads with heart in mouth
Forever sally forth.

Maiden Lane and Ladd Street meet
As in a country dance,
And there the hesitating feet
First linger in romance.

Many maidens faring forth,
Who wander east and west,
Meet the lads from south and north
Who love them most and best.

Many are the cornered streets
From Broadway back to Main,
But none can match where Ladd Street meets
And corners Maiden Lane.

There the air bears sweet perfume
From sunny garden-plots;
There the stony sidewalks bloom
With blue forget-me-nots!

Instruction for the Young.—Yells from the nursery brought the mother, who found baby gleefully pulling Billy's curls.

"Never mind, darling," she comforted. "Baby doesn't know how it hurts."

Half an hour later wild shrieks from the baby made her run again to the nursery.

"Why, Billy," she cried, "what is the matter with baby?"

"Nothing, mother," said Billy, calmly; "only now he knows."—Tit-Bits

Pert-(inent) Question.—EMPLOYER—"The boy I had before is worth twice as much as you are."

BOY—"Did he get it?"—Boston Transcript.

Hides, Furs Pelts, Wool

Forty-two years of square dealing have earned for me the confidence of dealers and shippers in the Western territory, which is proven by the fact that I handle more hides direct from the Farmer and Ranchman than any concern in the West.

Highest Market Prices Paid at All Times

Ship your Hides to me and you will become one of my satisfied customers.

Write or wire for Quotations and Shipping Tags.

J. L. BROWN

1821 FIFTEENTH STREET
DENVER, COLO.



When You
Visit the
Stock Show

come in and get the boy a PANSY BICYCLE

No better wheel on the market, and it will afford your child an endless amount of health-giving pleasure.

THE PANSY MOTOR AND CYCLE WORKS

Main 3885 1715 Lawrence Street
Denver's Leading and Reliable Bicycle House

More Schoolboy "Howlers."—"Bigamy is when a man tries to serve two masters."

"The law allowing only one wife is called monotony."

"The priest and Levite passed on the other side because the man had been robbed already."

"The liver is an infernal organ of the body."

"Soldiers live in a fort; where their wives live is called a fortress."

"A buttress is the wife of a butler."

"A schoolmaster is called a pedigree."

"Filigree means a list of your descendants."

"The wife of a prime minister is called a primate."—London Spectator.

THE POETS' PEN

HOLIDAY

[Theodore Maynard in Lyric]

When every bird on every tree
Has sung with all its might;
When flowers amid the meadow grass
Are growing in the light—
Let every heart that leaps at play,
Each butterfly a-wing,
Rejoice to see a holiday,
A holiday, a holiday,
A happy-hearted holiday,
Because it is the spring!

When Christmas snows are on the roof,
And little children sit,
Eating their puddings and their pies,
Beneath the candles lit—
Since God was born on Christmas day,
Let every girl and boy
Ring all the bells of holiday,
Of holiday, of holiday,
The joy bells of holiday
That fill the world with joy.

My love and I in autumn woods,
Sweet-scented from the rain,
Once wandered for a holiday,
A holiday, a holiday,
When love went with us all the way,
And led us back again.
And though no Christmas snows that morn
Lay on the fields so green,
Yet God within our hearts was born,
The little lamb of God forlorn—
Because it was a holiday,
A holiday, a holiday,
The sweetest day of holiday,
When love was in us born!

EVERYWOMAN

[Nina Murdoch in Sydney Bulletin]

I have the quiet eyes of chaste Penelope,
And all her healthful ways,
As with a simple song I move dispassionately
Through the persistent days,
Soft as a summer breeze that winnows the
sun's gold
With breath not hot nor cold.

And yet I know that I am Cleopatra, too!
With mouth for love as keen;
With leaping pulse, and blood as warm and
rich in hue
As fired that eastern queen.
I could be wanton, too, in conquest, fierce
as she
Who gladdened Antony.

So I that am two women go disguised as
one
All my life long!
And witless men who mark some strange
thing said or done,
Some discord in my song,
Dream of no cause, but cry: "All women
are wrought so!"
Which is the most men know!

PROFLIGATE

[Floyd Meredith in Life]

Life held a brimming cup to me,
And I drank deep;
To quench the fire within me burning,
Again and yet again I sipped the wine,
But ever hoped to keep
The chalice filled and ready for returning.

I drained it, dregs and all;
And now I stand
With empty vessel, all its liquor spent.
Ah, could I once again
Within my hand
Life's flagon hold—I would be abstinent.

TWILIGHT IN MIDDLE MARCH

[Francis Ledwidge]

Within the oak a throb of pigeon wings
Fell silent, and gray twilight hushed the
fold,
And spiders' hammocks hung on half-opened
things
That shook like foreigners upon our cold.
A gypsy lit a fire and made a sound
Of moving tins, and from an oblong moon
The river seemed to gush across the ground
To the cracked meter of a marching tune.

And then three syllables of melody
Dropped from a blackbird's flute, and
died apart
Far in the dewy dark. No more, but three.
Yet sweeter music never touched a heart
'Neath the blue domes of London. Flute
and reed
Suggesting feelings of the solitude
When will was all the Delphi I would heed,
Lost like a wind within a summer wood
From little knowledge where great sorrows
brood.

THE GIANT REDWOOD

[M. J. Riordan in American Forestry]

When Babylon was riotous, thy head
Was wise with years; when Bonaparte
on cold
Helena's rock lay still, thy heart was
bold
As youth against the storm; no hair has
fled
Of all thy leafy locks through age; the
dead,
Since thou wert young, have swept in
ranks untold
To immortality; straight as of old,
Thou wait'st the generations still unbred.
Why build we monuments of crumbling
stone,
Or tawdry brass and bronze, to mark a
name
And spare mere memory to unheeding
time?
It were far sweeter, though to be unknown,
To rest beneath green trees. Could
marbled fame
Sleep softer bring, though graved with
sacred rhyme?

MONTANA NIGHT

[Elliott C. Lincoln in Contemporary Verse]

Montana night. The velvet of the sky
Is powdered thick with silver dust; below,
A realm of half-lights, where black
shadows flow
To Stygian lakes, that spread and multiply.
Far to the east the Moccasins rise high
In jagged silhouette. Now, faint and low,
A night bird sounds his call. Soft breezes
blow,
Cool with the dampness of a stream hard by.
Dim, ghostly shapes of cattle grazing near
Drift steadily across the ray of light
From a lone cabin, and I think I hear
The barking of a dog. All things unite
To lull the senses of the eye and ear
In one sweet sense of rest: Montana night.

GIFTS

[Amelia J. Burr]

Many have given me songs,
Others have given me power,
Joy like a cleaving sword,
Pain like a rain-sweet flower,
Vision of worlds unfound,
Dreams that burn in the breast;
With a smile in your quiet eyes,
You give me—rest.

Friends have clasped my hand,
Lovers my lips have kissed,
Priests have lifted my soul
As the incense rises in mist.
Prophets have called me like trumpets
Where the work of the world is done;
You open the door of my heart
To God's dear sun.

THE GRANDMOTHER

[Gladys Hazel in Westminster Gazette]

Upon her folded hands the sunshine falls,
Bathing their lines and scars of toil in
light;
And they are quiet as the evening earth
That waits in peace the coming on of
night.

She has held children's children in her arms,
Whose babies soon may lie against her
breast;
Now, in the shade of memories withdrawn,
In the high midday sun she sits at rest.

To her, remote, with her completed life
About her like a garment, age is kind;
For still her children, small and very dear,
Play in the secret dwelling of her mind.

REUNION

[R. L. J. in Life]

You wondered why I did not smile
When you came in that day,
But only pressed your hand awhile
And turned my face away.
"Is something wrong?" you asked the
nurse—
You see, I heard you speak
Outside the door. "No, he's not worse,"
She answered—"simply weak!"
Then you were gone. I lay and thought
Of what I should have done—
Of that one smile which would have brought
Your face into the sun—
Of that one smile I did not dare!
And shall I tell you why?
Just pride, my dear! I could not bear
To have you see me cry!

AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLIES

Acme Rubber Co.

Phone Champa 3970
319 SIXTEENTH STREET
Denver, Colo.

STOCKGROWERS

Save your TIRES by proper repair work. We employ experts only in our Repair Department

Call or write for price list on repairs

THROUGH A SHEEP-RAISING DISTRICT IN PATAGONIA

The stretch of country lying between Santa Cruz and the Straits of Magellan, in Patagonia, says the *Scotsman*, is not unlike Scottish moorland. Numerous valleys skirt hills which in their general aspect remind one of the Pentlands. Here large troops of guanaco, ostriches, flocks of wild duck, geese, flamingoes, etc., are found; while here and there a gray fox slinks way among the scrub.

The country is devoid of trees, and is practically devoted to sheep farms, which are either owned or at least managed for the most part by Scotsmen. Dwellings are few and far between. The houses are usually nicely situated on the hillsides, in sheltered situations, and close to springs of water. Everything in the vegetable line thrives, while apples, pears, raspberries, gooseberries, and cherries also do well in most places. The houses, as a rule, are nicely planned and have a good appearance. They are constructed of various materials, some being built with corrugated iron and brightly painted, others of cement blocks in imitation of stone. It is very necessary that the houses be comfortable and cheering, as that is practically all the people have down there—isolated as they too often are for months on end from contact with the outside world.

In this bleak country Gallegos is one of the principal towns. An important branch of industry there is the freezing of mutton for export, conducted by an American firm. The works have storage capacity for about 230,000 carcasses. Farther south, on the Straits of Magellan, are about half a dozen freezing companies. Some people are of opinion that the camps in the neighborhood of the Straits are better for sheep than those farther north.



TenEyck MOTOR CO.

Chas. H. Ten Eyck

We are the people to handle your next repair job.

Dodge, Hudson, Paige, Buick Service of which we are specialists.

We repair all makes of autos and weld all metals

815 BROADWAY
Ph. South 1099 Denver, Colo.

E. R. Cumbe, Pres. J. W. Billow, Secy.

"Rugged—Traffik—Cord"

Federal Tires

FEDERAL RUBBER TIRE WORKS CO.

1614 BROADWAY, DENVER
21 years in the Tire business in Denver

The Famous Worm-Drive

COLEMAN

The incomparable worm drive is guaranteed for the full life of the Tractor. The cheapest three-four plow tractor built—cheap because it is few in parts, built to wear. See us at the Stock Show or write for full particulars.

Coleman Tractor Sales Company
Dan M. Kershner,
Manager

1544 Court Place, Denver, Colo.

Since 1903

Phone Main 4088



AUTO AND TRACTOR
Radiators

REPAIRED AND CLEANED

Distributor for Flexo, Aero and McKinnon Cores. Tinned thruout and guaranteed the best at a moderate price.

1331 Broadway, Denver, Colo.

ESTRAYS

One ton of water may be colored by a single grain of indigo.

Every time the carp breathes it moves 4,368 bones and muscles.

The average depth of the Atlantic is estimated at about 16,000 feet.

Labrador has an area of 200,000 square miles, but the population is only 4,000.

At one period Russians believed that every beardless man was soulless; that is why, even now, the great majority of Russian men wear beards.

THE America Rubber Co.

Broadway at Second Ave.
Phone South 2137 Denver, Colo.

5,000-Mile Guarantee

FORD TIRES

30x3, Plain \$12.00
30x3 1/2 Non-Skid 15.50
No Seconds.
Special Grey Tube \$2.75 for above

WE PAY PARCEL POST

When in town make this your headquarters.

"Viz-Spark"

The greatest improvement in spark plugs since the introduction of the internal combustion motor.

Write us for detailed information regarding the operation of this wonderful spark plug with the visible-jump-intensified spark.

The
Standard Auto Accessories Company

714 Eighteenth St., Denver, Colo.
See us at Booth 26 Stock Show

We are Colorado Distributors for

Economy

TIRES and TUBES

Built for country roads and guaranteed for 6,000 miles.

Economy Tires are high class—the equal of any tire you have ever used—and their use will reduce your tire bill. Write for prices.

Send us your worn tires. We will fix them right at reasonable price.

American Vulcanizing Company
1736 Broadway
Denver, Colo.
Opposite Brown Palace

THE SPICE BOX

Cheap Enough.—"Want to buy a mule, Sam?"

"What ails de mule?"

"Nothing."

"Then what are you sellin' him fo'?"

"Nothing."

"I'll take him."—Boston Transcript.

A Contributing Factor.—At a recent meeting of British journalists the chairman told the following story: "I met a newspaper man today who came to Fleet Street twenty years ago with exactly 25s. in his pocket. He is now worth £40,000. He owes that entirely to his own ability and energy, combined with good health and a high code of ethics—and to the fact that an uncle recently died and left him £39,995."—Outlook.

In a Hurry.—The maid having failed to appear to take Tommie home from kindergarten, his teacher thought it a good opportunity for him to learn self-reliance.

"Now, Tommie, you know God is always with you, and you must think you have hold of His hand."

Next morning: "Well, Tommie, you got home all right?"

"Yes, Miss Wilson, I got home all right; but I can tell you I made God run every step of the way."—Life.

Information Wanted.—"Just one more question, uncle."

"Well, well, what is it?"

"If a boy is a lad and has a stepfather, is the lad a stepladder?"—Boston Transcript.

Intentional.—Insurance man putting questions to cowboy:

"Ever have any accidents?"

"No," was the reply.

"Never had an accident in your life?"

"None. A rattler bit me once, though."

"Well, don't you call that an accident?"

"No. He bit me on purpose."—Boys' Magazine.

KNICKER.—"So Smith invented a labor-saving machine?"

BOCKER.—"Yes, when it won't work it saves the striking of ten men."—New York Sun.

Ready to Oblige.—MISTRESS — "Now, Ada, I want you to show us what you can do tonight. We have a few very special friends coming for a musical evening."

COOK.—"Well, mum, I 'aven't done any singin' to speak of for years; but, as you insists upon it, you can put me down for 'The 'Oly City'!"—London Passing Show.

Indulgent Father.—CUSTOMER — "Here, what's the meaning of this? I don't mean to be shaved by this kid!"

BARBER.—"It's only my own youngster. I let him have a bit of fun today, sir, because it's his birthday."—Edinburgh Scotsman.

Removal Notice.—GEORGE (affectionately),—"Helen, dear, I've had something hesitating on my lips for some time now and—"

HELEN (interrupting)—"Oh, George, how I do hate those little mustaches."—Lehigh Burr.

Waiting for the Returns.—As the camper was cleaning his gun, along came a woodsman.

"Been hunting today?" he asked.

"Yes."

"Shot anything?"

"I don't know yet. I'm waiting for the rest of the party to get into camp, so we can call the roll."—Boston Transcript.

Labor Trouble.—His Better Half (regarding him from the bedroom window)—"Where you bin this hour of the night?"

"I've bin at me union, considerin' this 'ere strike."

"Well, you can stay down there an' consider this 'ere lockout."—Tit-Bits.

A Slight Difficulty.—"Witness," asked the attorney for the defense, who was trying to prove the temporary insanity of the prisoner, "was it this man's habit to talk to himself when alone?"

"Jest at this time," came the answer, "I don't recollect ever bein' with him when he was alone."—Watchman Examiner.

Both Fooled.—WICKS—"Back to town again? I thought you were a farmer."

HICKS.—"You made the same mistake I did."—Boston Transcript.

Sure Insurance

THE SIGN OF GOOD INSURANCE



THOS. F. DALY, President

SUPERB SERVICE

The Thos. F. Daly Agency Co.

Tel. Main 451

Box 1200 Denver, Colo.

The Queen's Pawn.—A Sunday-school teacher in London was talking to her class about Solomon and his wisdom.

"When the Queen of Sheba came and laid jewels and fine raiment before Solomon, what did he say?" she asked presently.

One small girl, who evidently had had experience in such matters, promptly replied:

"'Ow much d'yer want for the lot?"—Christian Herald.

Dark Breakfast.—"Mama, I want a dark breakfast."

"Dark breakfast! What do you mean, child?"

"Why, last night you told Mary to give me a light supper, and I didn't like it."—Blighty (London).

A Gay Deceiver.—JOHN—"You work hard. How many hods of mortar have you carried up that ladder today?"

BILL.—"Hush, man! I'm foolin' the boss. I've carried this same hodful up an' down all day, an' he thinks I've been workin'."—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Mixed Identity.—"You didn't know who I was this morning!"

"No? Who were you?"—Harvard Lampoon.

HEREFORD BREEDERS

Painter Herefords

Our herd consists of 800 Registered Herefords.
Quality as good as the best. Prices always reasonable.
Our specialty—Car lots of Top Range Bulls.
Your orders solicited

JOHN E. PAINTER & SONS
ROGGEN, COLO.

Hereford Corporation of Wyoming

STRONGLY BRED

Anxiety
Herefords

Over 1,500 in the Herd

25,000 acres devoted to HEREFORD breeding. The Grand Champion Wyoming Fairfax heads our herd.

Foundation cows imported direct from England. Choice Registered Breeding Herefords for sale. See us or write

Box 876, Cheyenne, Wyo. Denver Office 715 E. & C. Bldg.

FARM ACREAGE, CROPS, AND VALUES

THE FARMERS of the United States increased their acreage about 10 per cent during the war period, and received an increase of approximately 120 per cent for their output, says *Bradstreet's*. These figures are based on the official records of the Department of Agriculture, showing the acreage and farm value on December 1 of the ten principal crops—wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, rice, potatoes, tobacco, hay, and cotton—grown in the United States in the calendar years 1914 and 1918.

The area devoted to these ten principal crops in 1914 was 297,000,000 acres, and in 1918, 326,000,000 acres—an increase of approximately 10 per cent. The farm value of the ten crops on December 1, 1914, was \$4,933,000,000, and on December 1, 1918, \$10,934,000,000—an increase of about 121 per cent. Of all farm products, the Department of Agriculture puts the value, based on prices at the farm, at \$9,895,600,000 in 1914, and \$21,386,000,000 in 1918—an increase of approximately 115 per cent. The increase in value of animals and animal products was about 90 per cent, and of all crops 132 per cent, comparing 1918 with 1914.

The quantities of the chief crops turned out showed a much smaller increase than that of the acreage cultivated. The area devoted to wheat grew from 53,541,000 acres in 1914 to 59,110,000 in 1918, but the crop increased only from 891,000,000 bushels in 1914 to 917,000,000 in 1918. The corn area was 103,435,000 acres in 1914 and 107,494,000 in 1918, but the crop fell from 2,673,000,000 bushels in 1914 to 2,583,000,000 bushels in 1918, though the crop of 1917 made the highest record in the history of that crop—3,065,000,000 bushels. The farm value of the wheat crop, however, grew from \$878,680,000 in 1914 to \$1,874,623,000 in 1918; that of corn, from \$1,722,000,000 in 1914 to \$3,528,000,000 in 1918. The farm value of wheat on December 1 is stated by the Department of Agriculture at 98.6 cents per bushel in 1914 and \$2.04 per bushel in 1918; that of corn, at 64.4 cents per bushel in 1914 and \$1.36 per bushel in 1918.

HOW TO JUDGE BEEF CATTLE

THE ART OF JUDGING is the foundation of all beef-cattle shows, and is also largely the means of determining the value of cattle offered at public sales, says *Farmers' Bulletin* No. 1068, recently issued by the Department of Agriculture. Each breeder, therefore, in order to attain success in his line, must be a good judge, so that he can select and mate individuals to get the best possible offspring. A thorough knowledge of judging feeders, for example, is important, since profit in

cattle-feeding usually depends on buying animals of the right type.

Without definite standards, stock-judging cannot be successful. The ideal beef type in the fat animal consists in a low-set body which is broad, deep, and smooth, with straight lines, and with a thick, even covering of firm flesh. In addition to this general beef form, the quality of hair, hide, and bone, and general character and style, are important considerations, because they are an index to the quality of the meat.

The bulletin takes up in detail various phases of judging, together with an easily understood discussion of the various types of animals and the method of scoring them. It may be had free on application to the Department of Agriculture at Washington.

CO-OPERATIVE LIVE-STOCK SHIPPERS ORGANIZE

REPRESENTATIVES of live-stock shipping associations in twenty states, besides Canada, met in Chicago on December 3 and 4, 1919, for the purpose of perfecting the organization of the National Federation of Co-operative Live-Stock Shippers, as announced in our November issue. The constitution and by-laws, as previously framed, were adopted, and the objects of the organization were declared to be:

"To encourage better and more economical methods in the production and distribution of live stock and live-stock products; to encourage the organization of co-operative live-stock marketing organizations; to develop uniformity in the plan of organization and method of operation of local live-stock shipping associations; to aid such organizations in problems of general interest in transportation, handling, and marketing; to lease, buy, build, own, improve, mortgage, sell, and control such buildings and other real and personal property as may be necessary in the conduct of its operations; and to perform any other work which may be of benefit to its members or helpful to the industry."

At the convention, addresses were delivered by men prominent in the co-operative movement, and many subjects of interest to live-stock shippers were discussed. The sentiment prevailed that the new organization was destined to become one of the most powerful branches of agricultural co-operation in the United States.

Knute Espe, of Nevada, Iowa, was chosen president; C. E. Compson, of Remus, Mich., vice-president; John Miller, of Galva, Ill., treasurer, and S. E. Peterson, of Waconia, Minn., acting secretary. Earl J. Trosper was authorized to continue as organizing secretary, with headquarters at Chicago.

Why not make the Anti-Saloon League mandatory for Germany?—*Rochester Herald*.

Stocks, Bonds

We are prepared to quote prices on any security traded in anywhere. If it is on the market we can get you a quotation either to buy or sell.

Our Statistical Department will take pleasure in answering your inquiries regarding any securities. We specialize in High-Class Texas Oils.

GILL & COMPANY

521 Cooper Bldg., Denver
Phones Champa 567 and Champa 13

ERNEST L. WHITE

Oil Stocks
Investment Bonds

General Insurance

556 Gas and Electric Building

Phone Main 2360
DENVER COLORADO

Wasted Button.—RONALD (after church service)—“I say, sis, did the curate really mean that those black people don't wear clothes?”

SISTER—“Yes, quite true.”

RONALD—“Then, what was the good of grandpa putting a button in the collection?”—London Blighty.

Muffler Needed.—MOTHER—“I wish you wouldn't stand on the steps so long with that junior when he brings you home.”

SHE—“Why, I only stood there for a second last night.”

MOTHER—“Is that all? I really thought I heard a third and a fourth.”—Gargoyle.

Help Wanted.—FIRST ROOMMATE—“I say, Walt, would you kindly lend me your green necktie this evening?”

SECOND ROOMMATE—“Why, certainly, Ed! But why all the formality?”

FIRST ROOMMATE—“I can't find it.”—Awgawan.

Quick Side-Stepper.—A widower had engraved on his wife's tombstone the words: “The light of my life has gone out.”

A little later he married again, and one day was standing with No. 2 before his first wife's grave.

Reading the above sentiment, the lady inquired in a rather huffy tone: “Is that so?”

“Yes,” replied he, “but I've struck another match.”—Truth-Seeker.

HOW ANIMALS TAKE THEIR BATHS

[Animal World]

Human beings pay a good deal of attention to washing, but animals under natural conditions seldom wash in the sense in which we understand the verb. The contemporary press has come to the conclusion that, broadly speaking, the only creatures which wash themselves in water are the birds, and many of them—most, in fact—are absolute enthusiasts in the practice, as anyone can see, even in towns, in the case of the sparrow. Some birds, however, much prefer a shower bath to going into water and splashing it over themselves. Pigeons love a bath in the rain, and larks and cockatoos seem only to bathe in this way. It might be suggested that the high temperature of birds, which about equals fever-heat in man, accounts for this love of washing in water.

The birds which do not bathe generally make up for it by dusting themselves. Everybody who keeps poultry knows, or ought to know, that one of the necessities of fowl-life is the dust-bath, and the custom of using dust instead of water extends to all the birds of the game and poultry family, while some few employ both dust and water, like the common sparrow.

Reptiles do not wash at all, but merely soak; and, in the case of beasts, deliberately washing with water seems to occur only with elephants. Females of the African elephant have been seen to daub their calves with mud and then wash it off—soaping and sluicing them, in fact. Most naked-skinned animals like to wallow, at any rate in hot weather; and so do many which are furred. Such bathing is enjoyed, not only by rhinoceros and buffaloes, but, as everyone knows, by dogs and even by bears and tigers.

But wallowing is not washing, and when performed in mud leaves the wallower dirtier than before, until the deposit has caked off. The equine tribe, like the game-birds, favor a roll in sand, but most of the hooved animals contrive to keep their coats in order without either dry or wet cleaning.

Many supple-bodied animals find they can do all they want by licking. Such are the cat and the mouse, and their respective relatives. Bats are very assiduous both in licking and scratching themselves, and the continual scratching of the monkey tribe is not so much a search for parasites as a kind of natural currycombing.

Heard in School.—TEACHER—“Give an example of a dead language.”

YOUNG AMERICA—“What are you going to have?”—Life.

LIVE STOCK LOANS

Our Specialty

Always
at Your
Service



Tell Us
Your
Needs

214-215 Boston Building
Denver, Colorado

D. S. Wageley & Co.

STOCKS—BONDS
INVESTMENT SECURITIES

Bought—Sold—Quoted

Our statistical department is most complete and at your service

MAIN 7986 MAIN 7987
709 COLORADO BUILDING
DENVER, COLO.

She Knew.—The teacher had written 92.7 on the blackboard, and to show the effect of multiplying by ten rubbed out the decimal point. She then turned to the class and said:

“Now, Mary, where is the decimal point?”

“On the duster, miss,” replied Mary, without hesitation.—London Tit-Bits.

Sometimes Better.—Bobby, just home from his first visit to the country, was telling the folks of its wonders. “And say, ma,” he said, “out on the farm they get milk from cows, and it's just as good as any.”—Boston Transcript.

Unassuming.—“Is your wife one of those women who look at their husbands and say: ‘I made a man of him?’” asked the impertinent friend.

“No,” answered Mr. Meekton. “My Henrietta is very unassuming. She merely says she has done her best.”—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

An Alibi.—TEACHER—“What is an alibi?”

BRIGHT BOY—“Being somewhere where you ain't.”—Life.

Chronic Cases.—“How is your cold, Donald?”

“Oh, very obstinate.”

“And how's the wife?”

“About the same.”—London Blighty.